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presents...

GROVES versus HENAULT

DAN HARDER GRAPHIC

WHO WILL BE
THE NEXT UVSS CHAIR?

JOANNA GROVES
Director of Finance, Putting Students First
Three victories, no losses

DALLAS HENAULT
Standard Bearer, Students for Change
No victories, two losses

3 PM CINECENTA

THURS FEBRUARY 26

THE ONLY NO-HOLDS-BARRED, HEAD-TO-HEAD, FACE-TO-FACE, NO-GLOVES DEBATE

BE THERE FOR THE EVENT OF THE YEAR

Student grants axed by B.C. government

BY SARAH PETRESCU

When Christine Ambrose read about the provincial government's plan to eliminate grants for low-income students, she thought it was a cruel joke.

"When I realized the cuts were for real I started crying, I was so upset," said Ambrose, a third-year child and youth care student with two teenagers, who says she cannot afford the extra debt.

Ambrose cracked her yellow pages and called up two random MLAs looking for answers to why the cuts were made and what Finance Minister Gary Collins's elusive promise to provide a new loan remission and post-degree grant program in his budget announcement would look like. Like many British Columbians with the same questions, Ambrose got no answers.

Collins's budget announcement on Feb. 17 outlined the complete elimination of student grants, effective August 2004, and replaced them with an expanded student loan program. The cuts to grants will save the provincial government $29 million and help provide funding for the 25,000 new spaces they plan to create by 2010. Collins said the decision to cut grants was part in parcel with keeping up with the rest of the provinces who, with the exception of Quebec, do not provide up-front grants.

The end to the grant program violates the provincial government's 10-year partnership with the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation, the federal government's $2.5 billion fund set aside for lower-income students. The partnership saved the provincial government $11 million a year in funding for grants, something they may be forced to forfeit with their cuts to the up-front grant program.

Students and advocates condemned the cuts to grants as an attack on the poorest students.

"I find it shocking and disgusting the provincial government would cut the only program specifically targeted to low-income students," said Joanna Groves, director of finance for the UVic Students' Society.

The cuts will mean that most students on the loan program who received grants will have their debt increase by 30 per cent over 4 years. Single parents could face a debt of $70,000 to complete an undergraduate degree.

"Facing a debt of that magnitude is a huge barrier to many low-income people wanting to get an education," said Groves, who thinks the cuts will cause poorer students to drop out or not seek a university education.

At the budget lock-up prior to his announcement, Collins said the provincial government was planning a loan remission and post-degree grant program to help meet the financial needs of low-income students. Although Collins provided no details for the programs, a spokesperson said they were looking at the "Australian model," a repayment program based on income brackets.

Since the lock-up, neither Collins nor Minister of Advanced Education Shirley Bond have announced details about the new remission and grant programs or who will be consulted in planning it–something which concerns the university administration and students.

"I don't think they adequately explained what they meant about a loan remission program," said Don Avison, president of The University Presidents' Council of British Columbia.

"Understandably, this is of a great concern to many students. It is important we get some clarity from the provincial government and we're working to achieve that."

UVic President David Turpin assures students he will push for swift implementation of the promised loan remission and post-degree grant program.

"We've let the Ministry [of Advanced Education] know we'd like to be involved in developing the programs. The longer they wait to give us some details on the programs the more student anxiety will increase."

Ambrose would like some clarification on the promised loan remission and grant program as well. She said she considered quitting school when she heard her grants would be cut, but was encouraged to "hold on" by Turpin.

"I called President Turpin totally freaking out. He told me to wait for more details about the loan remission and grant program. I think he was as shocked as I was," said Ambrose.

"The heads of universities should be screaming the loudest. That money is coming directly out their students pockets and they owe it to us to stand up to the provincial government," she said.

Turpin did have some good news for students.

He said the new funding from the provincial government and some budget tightening at the university will mean tuition will be significantly lower than the 28 per cent increase previously projected.

PROVIDED PHOTO

Gary Collins indicates how much information his government has released on promised loan remission.

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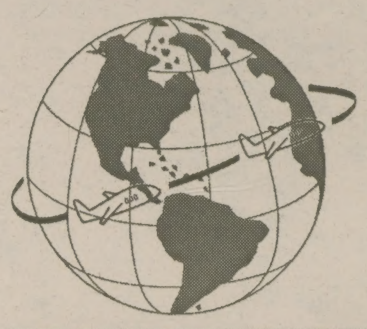

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Monday dismisses veteran muckraker

BY SARAH PETRESCU

The provincial Liberals aren't the only budget-slashers causing a stir in Victoria.

Monday Magazine, Victoria's alternative news weekly, has cut loose veteran journalist Russ Francis in its latest attempt to curb expenses and meet a falling revenue crisis.

Francis was news editor at *Monday* until his dismissal last Thursday and wrote a column on provincial politics for the magazine for nine years. Known for filing countless freedom of information requests and lurking in the legislature and City Hall, Francis has dug up some of the most revealing goings-on in local government–including the city's plan to strike an arena deal with car salesman and bankrupt franchise owner Dave Pasant.

"The city needs a muckraker like Russ," said Ross Crockford, former *Monday* editor and co-winner of a Jack Webster Journalism Award with Francis and T.K. Demmings in 1999 for coverage of the municipal election.

"It will be much harder for *Monday* to maintain its public reputation for investigative journalism with the loss of Russ Francis," he said.

Francis was let go with two other long-time *Monday* employees, Bob Fehr, their art director for 25 years, and Melanie King, accountant for 17 years. The dismissals, recalling a bad game of newspaper *Survivor*, came not long after *Monday* announced drastic cuts to their freelance budget and the canning of editorial assistant Mike Dewitt in January.

Jim Tighe, president of Island Publishers, the company that owns *Monday*, said the cuts are due to flat revenue.

"We haven't turned a profit in three years," said Tighe.

"We had also fallen into a trap of paying outrageous freelance sums."

Tighe said ad revenues for the weekly have been down and the federal ruling to ban cigarette advertisements has cost the paper almost $175,000 in revenue loss.

Bill MacAdam, publisher of *Monday* and the *Business Examiner*, said that although the cuts to staff and the freelance budget were tough, they needed to make some changes.

"Like any other business you need to take your losses and continue to move forward," said MacAdam.

Tighe said there have been misunderstandings over whether the newspaper plans to continue to cover politics with the dismissal of Francis.

"*Monday* will still cover politics. We just can't afford to cover the municipal stuff on a full-time beat," said Tighe.

Tighe said Francis was offered a position as a contributing editor, but has not yet accepted the offer.

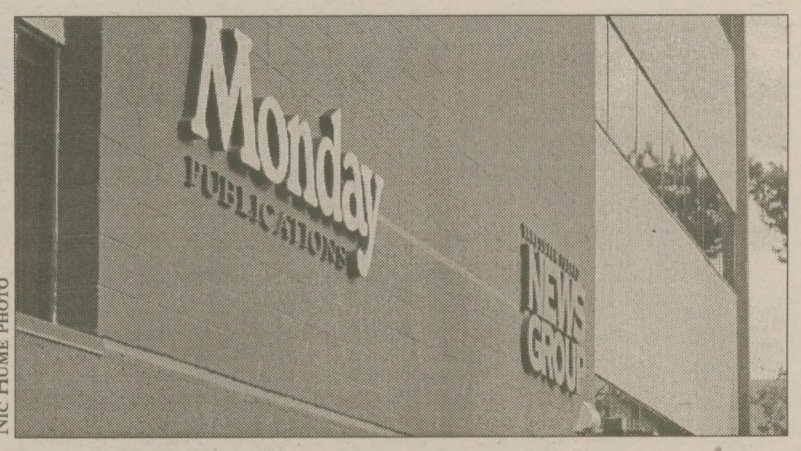
He said he does not want the cuts to affect the workload of the current editorial staff, which has been downsized to four full-timers.

"We're not trying to bend the backs of those who remain," said Tighe, who hopes that freelancers will take on some of the burden.

But Crockford is not so hopeful *Monday* will be able to compete for quality freelance writing.

"*Monday* has whittled down what they pay for an investigative feature to less than a third of what [Vancouver arts and entertainment weekly] *The Georgia Strait* pays," said Crockford.

"No one is going to do investigative journalism for 50 bucks an article. If the company [Island Publishers] has a commitment to what *Monday* does, it will have to be backed up with real reporting and a concern for a community readership that expects breaking news stories and investigative journalism."



NIC HUME PHOTO

Victoria's alternative weekly *Monday Magazine* has become the set of newspaper *Survivor* with recent staff and budget cuts.

Can we trust the budget numbers?

BY PATRICK WHITE

Most students know that creating a budget and sticking to it for a year can be tricky business, but rest assured, our own provincial government has just as much trouble.

Take B.C.'s Ministry of Advanced Education, the ministry responsible for running our post-secondary system, as an example. Too many items in Hon. Shirley Bond's ministry have been tweaked, changed or altogether eliminated in the past year to fit in this article, so here's a brief rundown.

Last year's budget planned to add almost $30 million dollars to student financial assistance programs including student grants. The ministry has since changed its mind to the tune of $60 million, according to the 2004–05 budget announced on Feb. 17. That promise of $30 million for students has vanished, and been replaced with a $30 million cut of all student grants.

Last year's budget estimated student financial assistance would cost $182 million in 2004–2005 and $188 million in 2005–06. This year's budget estimates the more paltry sums of $136 million and $137 million, low levels not seen since the nineties.

The Ministry of Advanced Education has also changed the amount it intends to disperse in student loans. Last year, the ministry estimated that total loans offered to students would drop from $208.5 million in 2003–04 to $163.6 million in 2004–05. The most recent budgets anticipates that, instead of a drop, the total loans will increase to $279.4 million in 2004–05, a raise of 34 per cent. So, the province is not only cutting direct financial assistance, through the elimination of their grant program, to students, it is allowing more students to go deeper in debt.

The Ministry of Advanced Education has also eliminated the only yardstick they had for measuring financial burdens on students. Previous budgets measured the "ratio of median debt to median income of grads" as part of the ministry strategy to "ensure that education costs are shared equitably." That measurement and, presumably, that strategy no longer exist.

These cuts to financial assistance and increases in student debt come after a year in which post-secondary institutions made record profits. The new budget forecasts that post-secondary institutions will have realized a net income of $26 million at the same time tuition fees went up by and average of 30 per cent across the board. In the government's three-year fiscal plan, they project that the revenue from post-secondary fees will increase 8.1 per cent per year.

This is only a forecast, however, and like so many other numbers in the budget for the Ministry of Advance Education, it is subject to extreme change.

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IMPORTANT REGISTRATION INFORMATION FOR SEPTEMBER 2004

Undergraduate and Graduate students who have a UVic Netlink account were recently sent an email to respond whether they want to receive printed registration materials.

The deadline to respond is SUNDAY, MARCH 7th

STUDENTS WHO DO **NOT** RESPOND WILL **NOT** BE SENT PRINTED REGISTRATION MATERIAL.

If you have not checked your email then do it today and read this very important message from the Office of the Administrative Registrar. **Undergraduate students** access WebView (www.uvic.ca/reco) and select Question Page to indicate your preference. **Graduate Students** should access WebView (www.uvic.ca/grar) and select Question page.

The deadline to respond is SUNDAY, MARCH 7th

If you do not yet have a netlink account, you are missing important messages from our office. Please apply for an account at http://netlink.uvic.ca

NOTE: Please be sure we have your **correct Summer** address. Undergraduates may use Address Change on WebView. Graduate students should inform Graduate Admissions and Records.

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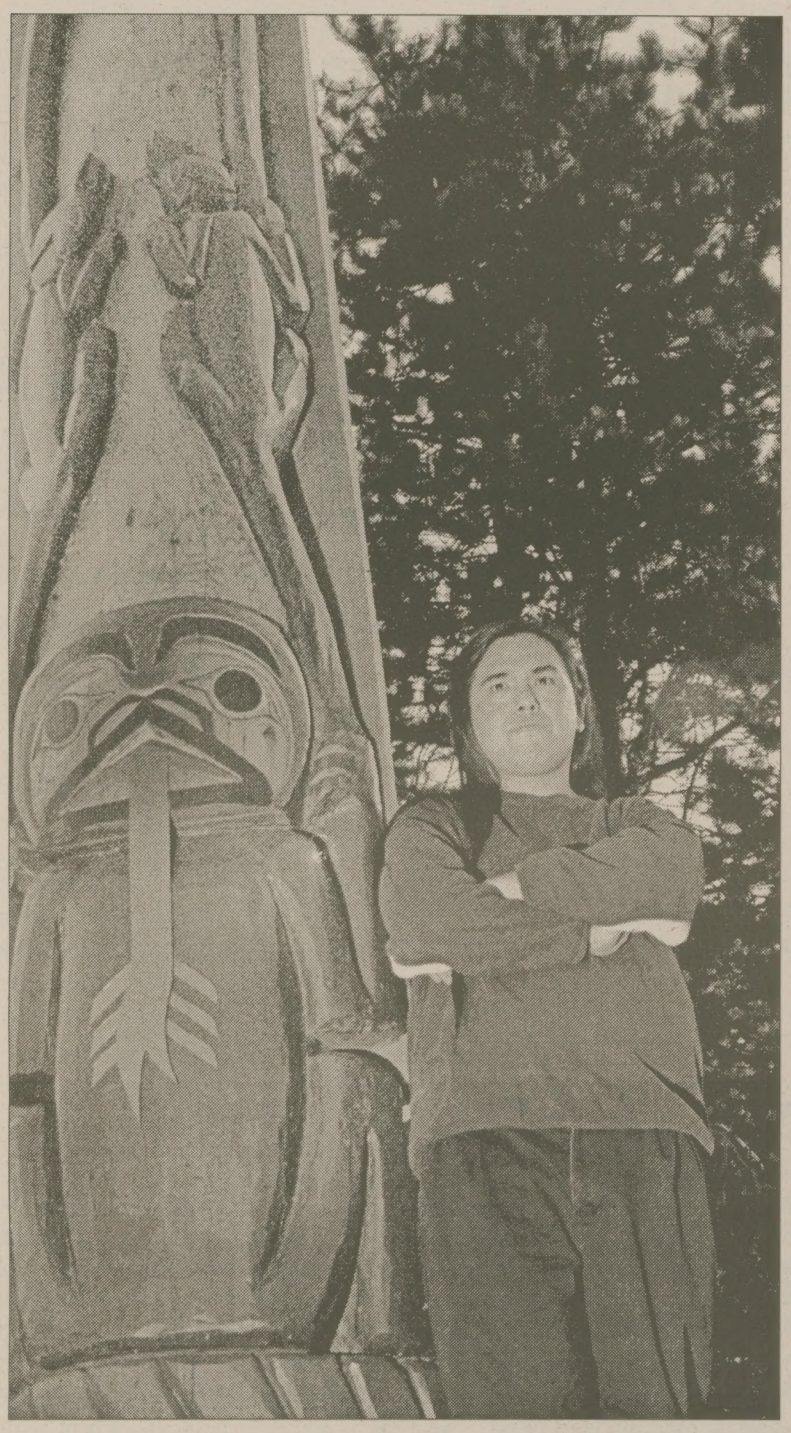

Nic Hume photo

Wil George entered the race for UVSS chair as an independent against Dallas Henault and Joanna Groves, but has since withdrawn his bid.

And then there were two

Withdrawal of Wil George makes election for chair a two-horse race

by Richard Warnica

The possibility of a three-way horse race for UVic Students' Society Chair ended last Thursday when independent candidate William George withdrew his nomination for the position, citing, among other reasons, a fear that his candidacy could result in a split vote between him and current Director of Finance Joanna Groves.

The decision reduces the field of candidates for Chair in next week's UVSS elections to two: Groves and the Students for Change candidate, Dallas Henault.

George currently sits on the Board as a Director at Large, elected last year on Groves' Putting Students First (PSF) slate. Had he stayed in the race it was possible that he and Groves could have split the PSF's left-wing support, giving the right-wing Henault a better chance to capture the post.

The last time a candidate not from PSF won an executive position it was at least partially due to a split vote. Two years ago an independent candidate, Robert Oluka, won the Director of Academics position with less than the combined vote of his two opponents, PSF candidate Adam Peters and independent Emily Wilson.

George decided to drop out of the race after a private conversation with Groves, which occurred some time between the closing of nominations on Monday Feb. 16, and his withdrawal on Thursday Feb. 19.

George refused to speak about the details of the talk, actually walking out of an interview when asked about it–before returning to say that the fact he spoke to a few people before he made his decision was "not really relevant."

Groves was no more forthcoming on the subject, saying only that it was "a personal conversation between friends" and that they "discussed the issue of vote splitting."

Groves in fact, expressed surprise that George ran against her in the first place.

Up until the time the nominations opened George had been sitting on the UVSS electoral committee, a position that disqualified him from running.

Groves added "I probably would have approached him about running on the slate if I had known he was interested. It was a little late when we found out."

George admitted that his decision was last minute. According to him, he only decided to run after nominations opened when "a number of people approached" him saying they were interested in nominating him. Only then did George resign his position on the electoral committee and put forth his nomination for Chair.

Henault, who stood to benefit the most from a split left-wing vote, called the withdrawal "disappointing to democracy." Henault also raised the possibility that George was pressured into making his choice. He said that when he spoke to George on the day nominations closed "he was very set on running." George's sudden reversal made Henault suspicious that "other factors were involved" in the decision.

Henault remained optimistic however, refusing to admit that the withdrawal would have an impact on his campaign. He even went as far as to claim that he never thought he could have benefited from a vote split.

The remaining Chair candidates square off Thursday in a *Martlet*-sponsored debate at 3 p.m. in Cinecenta.

If the BC Liberal government eliminates grants, they will shatter the dreams of this young woman, and the dreams of thousands like her.

Suzanne is in her second year at the University of Victoria. She is studying physics on her way to receiving her Education degree. She studies hard and has earned her A- average.

Even with a full time job in the summer and part time job in the winter, Suzanne needs student loans and grants to make ends meet. She's already $12,000 in debt. With tuition fees skyrocketing and now, the elimination of grants, Suzanne faces a debt of more than $50,000.

For Suzanne $50,000 is a scary number. Scary enough that she's thinking about not finishing her degree. Suzanne is not alone. **Because of Gordon Campbell, thousands of BC students are facing the same decision.**

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On budget day, the BC government announced the elimination of student grants.

Call or write your local MLA. Tell them to vote against eliminating grants.

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Ida Chong, Oak Bay	250.472.8528
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Arnie Hamilton, Esquimalt	250.479.8326

A MESSAGE FROM THE CANADIAN FEDERATION OF STUDENTS

Faith in Action

Local activist joins clergy and supporters to sleep in the streets during a vigil of solidarity with the city's homeless.

by Richard Warnica

Twelve different faith groups recently slept in the streets of Victoria to show their solidarity with the city's homeless, during a vigil on February 25. Among the organizers was John Mitchell, who has spent his life bringing his personal beliefs into political action.

Mitchell, the chair of the social justice committee for the Victoria Anglican diocese, is obsessed with putting the individual into the political.

"When the average citizen is involved…powerful forces are unleashed," said Mitchell. "When people aren't involved, forces, either from the left or the right, take hold. You can't bring about fundamental change without the average person being involved."

But Mitchell is far from the average banner-waving protestor. His vision of social change is based on the assumption that "change can be realized if you can find the reasonable people in society." And that means that he is committed to working to "affect fundamental change, whatever government is in power." As a result Mitchell is dismissive of traditional protest methods.

"You can wave all the placards you want," Mitchell said. "But the bottom line is, did it influence them (the government)? Chances are it didn't…We have the feasibility to influence change, but we need to find new methods."

In the 18 years that the Conservative governments of Margaret Thatcher and John Major governed the United Kingdom, they were forced to table and rewrite legislation only once.

Their defeat wasn't brought about by the opposition, the media, powerful corporate interests or big money. It came because of pressure started by activists, among them Victoria resident Mitchell, all angry over a seemingly innocuous piece of property law.

One of Mitchell's newest methods is an interfaith endeavor known as Faith in Action. The group, made up of representatives from myriad local religious and spiritual groups, was founded in January this year as a reaction to growing concern about the B.C. government's imposition of a two-year limit on income assistance.

According to Mitchell, faith groups from across the city were spurred to action by the idea that 16,000 British Columbians could be thrown off their assistance on April 1.

"Are we prepared, as a society, to have people starve on the streets?" Mitchell asked. "Because that is the bottom line."

Even though the government backed off from the April 1 deadline by imposing wide-sweeping exemptions to the two-year limit, Faith in Action is still dedicated to social change.

On Feb. 25, the Christian festival of Ash Wednesday, the group held an all day prayer meeting downtown. In addition to half a dozen Christian denominations, Pagans, Jews, First Nations and a Christian-environmental hybrid group called Eco-ecumenicals all gathered for hourly prayers services from noon to 12 a.m.

At midnight, after the services were complete, 20 clergy, lay-people and supporters from Faith in Action were scheduled to sleep outside on the streets. The event, called First Steps to Understanding, was organized to give the group a better understanding of the impact that the social assistance changes were having.

According to an information packet put out by FIA, the goal of the event was not to experience poverty or homelessness but to "take steps toward better understanding the forces working against the homeless."

And, according to Mitchell, that fits nicely with the overarching goals of FIA: to eliminate the B.C. government's two-year cap on income assistance and "to humanize income assistance policy."

When Mitchell met with the minister in charge of social assistance recently, he says he asked him, "Why can't we, in British Columbia have the most caring compassionate society on earth?"

And for Mitchell that is far from an impossible goal.

Bannock princess

Nic Hume photo

Rhonda McIsaac displays her wares at the bannock princess bake-off Wednesday, Feb. 25, as part of Aboriginal Awareness Week. Events to come include a lecture on emotional well-being by Roger John, a screening of *Is the Crown at War with Us?* and closing ceremonies on Friday at 6 p.m., CIT 105.

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A POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION

Project Respect: keeping youth safe

by Corrine Lowen

Nic Hume photo

Romina Miranda (left) and Tuval Dinner are facilitators for Project Respect, a youth violence program that focuses on sexual assault.

Roaming around the downtown core with videocameras and T-shirts emblazoned with the word "Slut," a group of teenagers ask their peers, "What do you say to your partner when you want to have sex?" These interviews formed the basis for Project Respect, a youth violence prevention program that focuses on sexual assault.

Romina Miranda and Tuval Dinner confront this subject by providing opportunities for youth to speak openly about sexuality and sex. In their roles as facilitators of Project Respect, they educate youth to be assertive and aware of sexual violence. In high school workshops and at community events, they work towards keeping youth safe by preventing acquaintance assault, or "date rape," and provide youth with leadership skills.

Miranda is a vibrant young woman who exudes positive energy. She has facilitated youth groups since she was 13, has been active in anti-racist and environmental activism, and has personal experience as a survivor. Miranda rarely takes a break. "Sometimes when I am not working I meet someone who would be a good contact, so I take that opportunity to say it would be cool if we could have a conversation about their work and how to link up with Project Respect," she says. Dinner agrees, "She is always on the job."

Dinner has a passion for his work that shines through his calm, direct gaze. A recent social work graduate from UVic, he first learned about Project Respect through his involvement with the "Men Against Sexualized Violence" group on campus. He says it is a challenge for men to find ways to engage the issue. "When my parents' friends ask me what I do, I say 'I work for the Sexual Assault Centre,' and they kind of disengage. It seems very, very difficult for people of my parents' generation to know what to say. That has been very surprising, and perhaps telling and insightful, that they are uncomfortable around the issue . . . People have a lot of belief in our society that not talking about issues of sexuality and violence will solve the problem. We've tried that for a couple of millennia, and it's not working."

About 10 years ago counsellors at the Sexual Assault Centre realized that an alarming number of youth were using the centre's Sexual Assault Response Team, which accompanies victims to the hospital. This suggested a much larger problem, since only a small percentage of youth victims of sexual assault come forward to report what happened to them. The agency began to research methods of working with youth and engaging them with the issue of preventing sexualized violence. With the original video project, and focus groups that looked for ways of reaching youth, Project Respect was born.

A lot of people who experience sexualized violence don't believe they deserve to get help, Dinner says. "We define sexualized violence as wrong. We focus on healthy sexuality, offering a space where youth can speak their mind and talk about their experience without being judged. They have so much to say. You can see that there is so much that they have been thinking about. They have been waiting for this kind of opportunity to speak."

Dinner says working with youth is uplifting and rewarding because he very rarely feels youth are beyond transformation. He says he's always surprised by his own emotional response when students tell him they've been sexually assaulted. "It is intense. It is a really different kind of work. It is what I believe in . . . If I'm feeling sad when I get home, I think that's okay. The work we are doing is really hard, and it is also really uplifting."

As government funding becomes increasingly scarce, the two say programs like theirs are invaluable. Miranda says, "In the long run, if we can eliminate the fear, men and women could be equal partners, and society would have strong people out there as parents and educators. Then there would be less need to spend money on drug and alcohol addiction treatment centres. It is so huge how the activities of Project Respect affect one person."

Miranda sees evidence of real transformation in the students. As she describes it, "they become empowered, and there is something so beautiful when they start speaking about some of the issues, and you can see their wheels turning, turning. They see that yes, that's true and that happens in society, and this is what I can do. It is like seeing wings just kind of cracking out of their shell."

She sees the youth group members downtown and notices they are totally transformed: "Young girls have become young women. They walk differently. I see that they very much take up their space. They are not afraid of sharing that. Obviously, the transformation doesn't happen all the time, but that doesn't mean that it is not going to happen in the future with time or experience. The few we have seen just blow me out of the water."

For more information, visit www.yesmeansyes.com.

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If you have questions about the Chiropractic field or want additional information about Logan College and the advantages of studying in the U.S, make sure to visit with Dr. Browne during his visit to UVIC.

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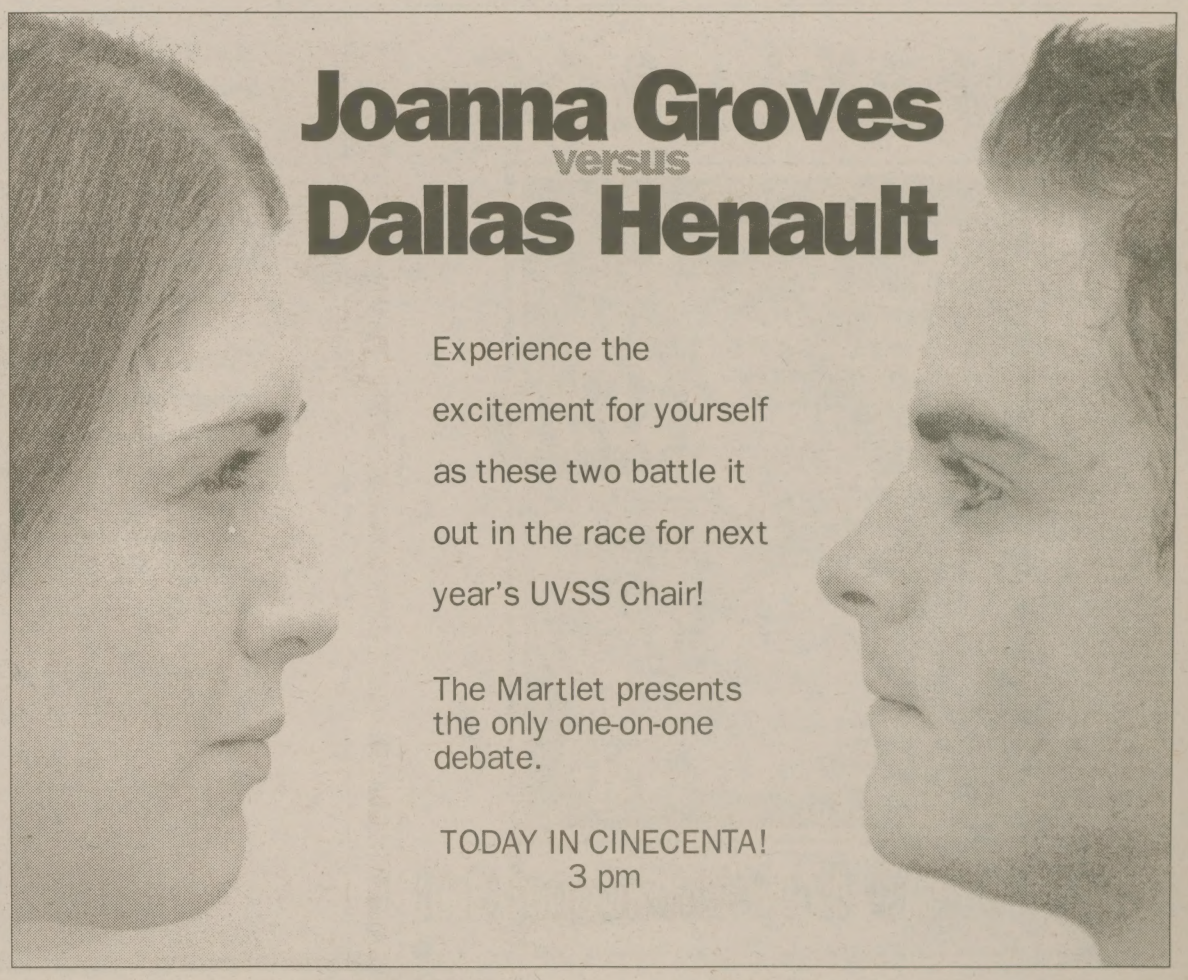

Joanna Groves
versus
Dallas Henault

Experience the excitement for yourself as these two battle it out in the race for next year's UVSS Chair!

The Martlet presents the only one-on-one debate.

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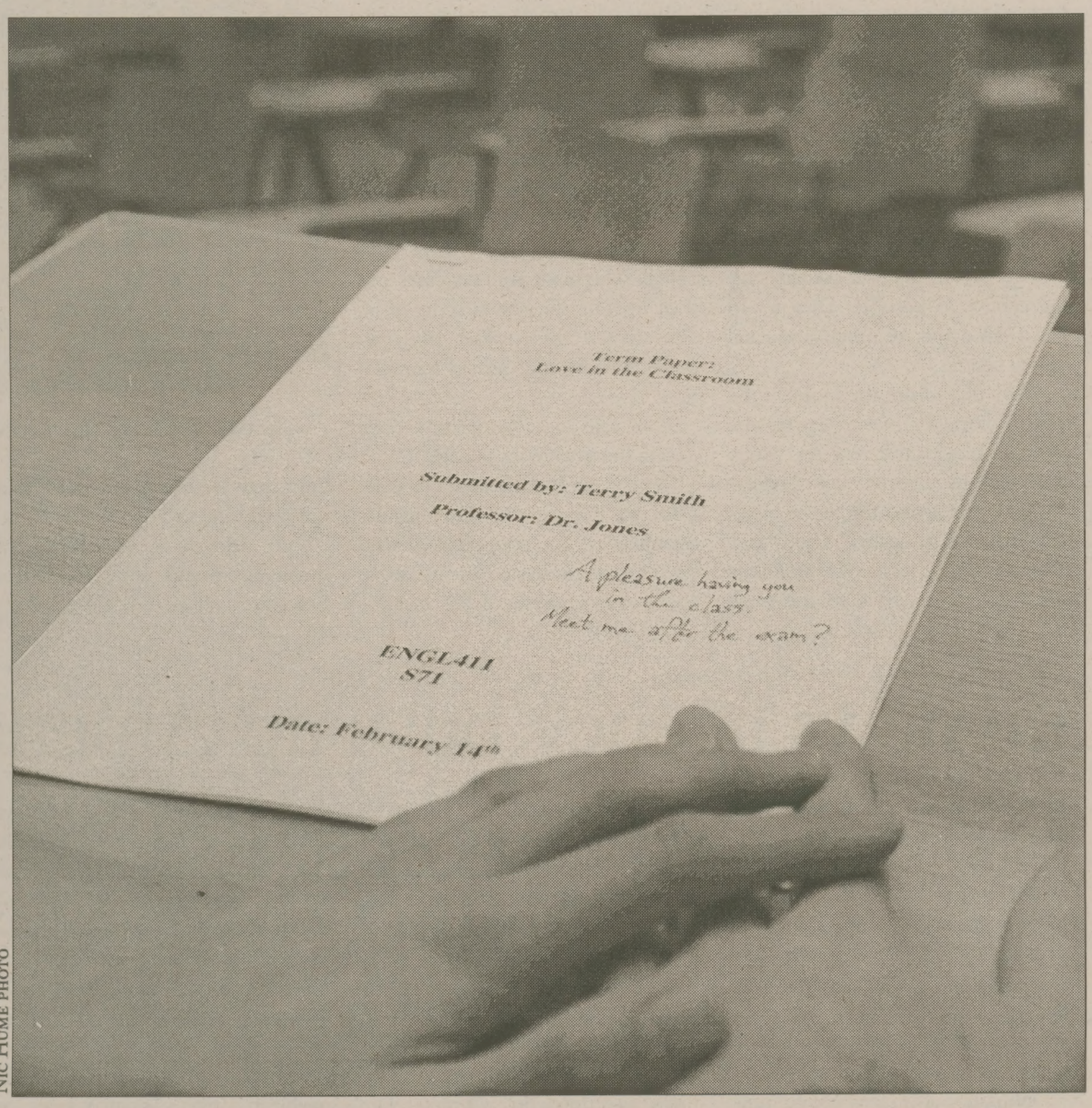
Hot for teacher

Professors who date former students tread on taboo territory, as John Thompson discovers

BY JOHN THOMPSON



NIC HUME PHOTO

Romance sparks at any moment, even between students and their professors inside musty lecture halls.

At the University of Victoria, many students admit to fantasies of hooking up with their professor. They are not alone. On the popular North American website ratemyprofessor.com, chili pepper icons dangle by the names of teachers who score high in appearance.

At UVic there are no rules against professors dating students, provided they are no longer in the same class. Yet teacher dating remains a taboo subject, and the subjects in this story asked for their names to be withheld.

In 1999, a student at nearby Camosun College realized she was smitten with her creative writing professor. She met him the previous semester in a Canadian literature class and initially didn't feel too warm towards him–he gave her the lowest marks she'd gotten on a paper–but she grudgingly respected his flexible teaching style and openness to students' ideas. In the creative writing class, they suddenly found themselves in a more intimate environment.

She thought an older man in his 40s wouldn't be interested in her. He had similar self-doubts. At the end of semester, she took a gamble.

"I wrote a story about a young woman who became interested in an older man," she said. "I kind of spelled it out to him."

He later asked her out for coffee, then dinner. They married during the summer of 2002.

She is now a 29-year-old graduate student in English literature at UVic. Her husband, who still teaches at Camosun, is 46. She said the source of attraction was simple: knowledge is sexy.

Back in 1965, an English literature professor on campus stood in front of his class and was unable to take his eyes off two women. They were both nuns, garbed in traditional "penguin suits," as he describes them.

"I ended up falling in love with one of the Sisters Mary," he said, "and I was married at the time."

Over the year, he was struck by the forceful personality of one during heated discussions over the erotic poetry of John Donne and Dylan Thomas. He was 23, she was 21.

That summer, the professor and his then-wife visited the two nuns for tea at St. Ann's Academy, a convent at the time.

"It was as I was saying goodbye to this woman who had such an intense way of speaking, I suddenly realized there was this intense power coming from her, and I was mesmerized by it."

Years passed, the professor's marriage began to crumble, and the nun had a falling out with the church.

"Next time I saw her, she was in a miniskirt," he said. They hooked up in 1973, when his marriage was breaking apart.

"We lived together in sin," he said. Later they married, and stayed that way for 19 years.

More recently, the same professor dated another former student in 1999 for two and a half years. In 2000 he found himself bed-ridden from a disease that doctors couldn't diagnose, which later turned out to be a blood clot in his intestine. His girlfriend, who was 22 when they got together, helped care for him.

"I was seriously at death's door," he said. "She was right with me then, through the thick and thin."

He said relationships often begin with playful exchanges between him and students over e-mail.

"If someone makes you laugh, you're automatically attracted to them," he said. "The rest falls together with that initial attraction."

Others who have played the teacher-student field proved difficult to contact. One young UVic writing professor allegedly dating a former student missed two scheduled appointments, then wrote by e-mail he was "way too busy" to talk.

A grad student and professor in women's studies who've been in a steady relationship for several years didn't want to speak, for fear of, in the argot of the academy, "fetishizing student-teacher relationships."

A young professor in the political science department known to attend the same parties as students echoed similar concerns. "There's only one type of relationship that's politicized on campus, and that's students and teachers," he said, pointing out the same scrutiny isn't applied to the love lives of janitors and administrators on campus. "Why is that?"

The short answer is power, according to the English grad student. And she doesn't think that's necessarily a bad thing.

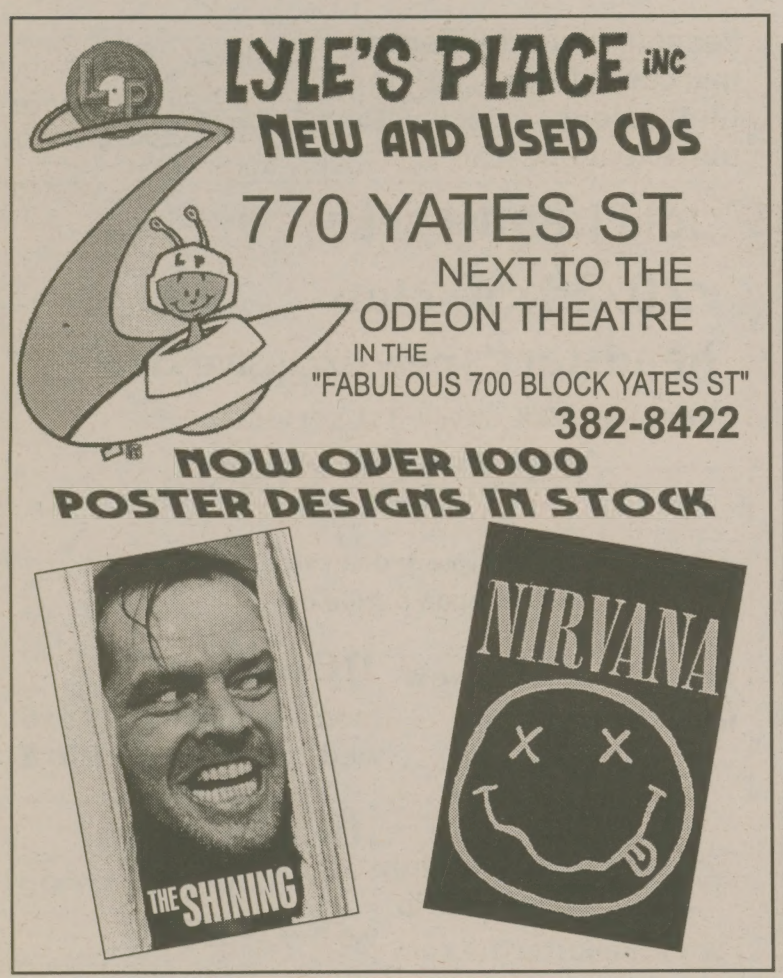
"There's an attraction to power. I think it's a biological attraction," she said. "I don't know, we're animals. There's a very primitive part of our brain that reacts to that."

Perhaps that's why in universities, where the intellect is expected to rule, so many academics are reluctant to concede that sometimes bodies and their physical impulses have their own way. The grad student, who is being taught "how to avoid Eros in the classroom" as part of her teaching practicum, says it's often a difficult subject to broach.

"I don't want to be perceived as someone who's given up their voice . . . their autonomy," she said, adding that while there's always a danger of being eclipsed by an older partner, she doesn't feel that way.

"If that was the basis of our relationship, that'd be unhealthy," she said.

The grad student said she thinks students and professors should wait until the class ends before getting involved. "You want to know what you're getting your A for," she said, but also adds, "It's really hard to moralize about human relationships . . . passion is a pretty strong, sweeping emotion."



Victorian observers head to El Salvador

by Linda Hills

Fourteen Victorians will head to El Salvador on March 13 as observers for the country's presidential election.

"Observers are needed because the election is contentious. This will be the first time that El Salvador's left-wing political party has an opportunity to take power," said Linda Shout, a coordinator for the CommonBorders delegation. "Also, numerous barriers to voter participation have been identified."

The group is a non-profit, non-partisan organization that supports civil society development and social justice movements in Latin America. Composed of nine delegates and four coordinators, they include retired professionals, a Victoria city councillor, artists, union members, lawyers and members of the Raging Grannies.

The group arrives one week before the March 21 election to attend training on the Salvadoran electoral system and voting process. They will also meet with community and political organizations and attend a candidates' debate.

"CommonBorders also sets up meetings with groups that our delegates have a particular interest in meeting with," Shout said.

The delegation divides into teams on election day to cover as many voting centres as possible. They try to get a good mix of urban and rural voting centres.

"We're there from the moment the voting officials arrive to set up the voting tables to the very end when the ballots have been counted, paperwork finalized, and the ballot boxes and materials re-sealed," Shout said. "In some cases, we are able to follow the ballot boxes back to the main vote counting centre in the capital, and can observe what happens there too."

Shout became involved with CommonBorders because she wanted to lend a hand in another country, without joining a cause that could be seen as partisan or interventionist.

"We are not there to impose our ideas of what democracy looks like. We have a lot to learn from other countries, and especially from individuals who have, in many cases, put their lives on the line in order to be able to cast their ballots freely, in secret, and without fear of intimidation," she said.

Shout said the relationships made during the trip are invaluable.

"We can do that because our delegates are not experts. We're regular members of our communities who have a sincere desire to learn about and try to understand the connections between the host country and our own," she said.

PROVIDED PHOTO

An election official explains the voting process to a group of Salvadorans.

Each delegate is responsible for travel, food and accommodation. Delegates will be holding a garage sale, a dance and a 10 kilometre run to raise money for the trip.

For information or to pledge, call 370-9879 or e-mail elections@commonborder.org.

Chinese state news agency buys up American media

by Matthew Little

Xinhua Financial Network, owner of China's official news agency, recently announced plans to buy U.S.-based Market News. The deal has many China observers concerned that mainland China is attempting to export its Communist-style information control to the United States.

New York-based Market News International is one of the top providers of real-time financial market news, with offices throughout the United States and Europe. The purchase gives Xinhua Financial control of a well-established and trusted source of market information.

Chinese state news agency Xinhua is the majority stakeholder in Xinhua Financial. Sophie Beach, with the Committee to Protect Journalists, calls Xinhua "the most firmly centralized, controlled media in China, it's the mouth piece for the Communist party."

She points out that smaller local media are told to follow Xinhua's lead, particularly on sensitive political issues or stories of industrial accidents or government corruption.

Beach said, "SARS is the most recent example . . . Xinhua was stating the official government line on it, that SARS was under control and that it was mostly an epidemic happening outside of China. And then, through a variety of ways, that cover-up was eventually broken apart."

Xinhua has also faced heavy international criticism for its campaign against Falun Gong in China. Chinese media in the U.S. and Canada have been sued for rebroadcasting Xinhua's reports. *Les Presses Chinoises* out of Montreal currently faces a contempt of court suit in addition to a defamation suit for rebroadcasting or reiterating sentiments from Xinhua reports.

While China has begun to reform its media system to reduce the number of state-owned media, most China experts agree that this kind of policy change will do little to alter China's history of repressing free speech. They believe that privately owned newspapers will simply exercise self-censorship.

According to media watchdog Reporters Without Borders, journalists in China are now required to submit to tests on their knowledge of Communist ideology. The group ranks China 248th on a list of 249 for press freedom, and the World Association of Newspapers (WAN) has declared that "there is so far no press freedom in China." The Committee to Protect Journalists has also declared China has "the world's most elaborate system of media control."

Although Market News is China's most notable purchase of non-Chinese media, the Chinese government began an aggressive campaign to dominate Chinese media around the world after Hong Kong was receded in 1997.

The Jamestown Foundation, a non-partisan think-tank specializing in identifying governments or countries that pose a threat to democracy and freedom, carried out a detailed analysis of China's influence on overseas Chinese media in 2001. It found that three of the four major Chinese newspapers published in the U.S. are either directly or indirectly controlled by the government of mainland China. A similar situation exists within overseas Chinese television stations, which often run CCTV-4 programming that is offered free of charge on an uncoded satellite signal and carries what Jamestown calls mainland China's "slanted news, or propaganda."

Although no similar analysis has been carried out in Canada, Chinese media in Canada have followed a similar pattern, as evidenced by *Les Presses Chinoises*' publication of Xinhua reports and propaganda.

Shiyu Zhou of the Association For Asia Research, a think tank specializing in Asian affairs, points out that controlling overseas Chinese media is another way mainland China attempts to control Chinese people within and beyond China's borders.

"Overseas Chinese have close communications with mainland China, so a lot of information will be passed to mainland China through this communication. So that is why they want to control, or at least heavily influence, the opinion of overseas Chinese."

On Xinhua's purchase of Market News, Zhou said, "For the Western media and the financial news, their intention is somehow clear or obvious. They still need a lot of foreign investment to sustain the regime and all the economic problems they have in China.

"Over the past few years more and more overseas economists began to realize problems with the Chinese economic system and more and more voices can be heard in the media, talking about . . . what's really going on behind the mirage of the economic development in China.

"The Chinese government is very afraid of this kind of discussion, these opinions, because this would affect foreign investment, which is kind of key now to what they call the 'development of the Chinese economy,' which is very unhealthy and has much dependence on this kind of investment."

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The Choice For Me

Melissa Banyai is a Third-year student from Windsor, Ontario Canada. She graduated from the University of Windsor with a Bachelor of Science degree in Human Kinetics achieving honours status each of her four years.

Melissa explored several schools before choosing Logan. She chose Logan because of the hands on approach, diversity of the program and the knowledge of the staff. "The Admissions staff is extremely knowledgeable about Canadian issues, the program is excellent and the campus is beautiful. What more could you ask for?"

After graduation, Melissa plans to open a multidisciplinary practice offering traditional chiropractic care, rehabilitation and acupuncture. "The chiropractic field has many options and specialties that interest me, the possibilities for helping patients through chiropractic care are endless!"

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News briefs

Post-secondary set for future privatization

In November 2003, the BC Liberals passed the *Degree Authorization Act* allowing them to give degree-granting status to private universities. Considering the provice has told post-secondary institutions to create 25,000 more seats in the next six years without providing sufficient funds to do so, some critics believe private institutions will be relied on to pick up seats that public schools cannot.

"This is something I've heard," said *Georgia Strait* political columnist and former NDP communications director Bill Tielman. "The legislation is there, they just need to give the private schools the go-ahead."

Well-defined slates set to showdown in UVSS elections

The lines are drawn, the posters are up and the candidates for this years's UVSS elections are set to battle.

Unlike last year, when the entire Putting Students First slate swept into power, this year's election may actually see a race. The challenger slate, Students for Change, will attempt to attack the sitting Putting Students First slate on a record that shows little success in fighting rising tuition fees, while promising to refocus the UVSS on issues within their control. A special *Martlet*-sponsored debate between the two candidates for chair, Dallas Henault and Joanna Groves, is set for Thursday, Feb. 26 at 3 p.m. in Cinecenta. Another all candidates meeting is set for Monday, March 1, at 1 p.m. in the Cinecenta.

UVSS voter turnout down in recent years

The last two UVSS elections have seen lacklustre voter turnout, with 12 per cent of eligible voters showing up last year and eight per cent in 2002. Electoral officer Dave Nicholls hopes that changes this year. He would like to see at least 2,500 people show up, or around 14 per cent of eligible voters.

The following is a rundown of voter turnout percentages for the last five years:

1999 – 32 per cent
2000 – under 10 per cent
2001 – 28.6 per cent
2002 – 8 per cent
2003 – 12 per cent

Women's action group faces loss of provincial funding

The Status of Women Action Group (SWAG) has been fighting for women's equity for 33 years, but at the end of March their services will be in jeopardy when all provincial funding stops. SWAG will remain open if they can secure enough outside funding.

On March 19, UVic women's studies student Kathleen Reed, a practicum student at SWAG, will give a presentation on the organization's history of struggling for women's rights in Victoria. Reed will hold her public presentation on March 19 at 7:30 p.m. in the Centre for Innovative Teaching, room 110.

In the meantime, the Victoria Women's Movement Archive at UVic's McPherson Library is seeking material for its archives. Anyone with materials generated by feminist groups from the late 1960s to the present day should contactc archivist Jane Turner at (250) 721-8258.

Seeking a return of the ring

BY JOHN THOMPSON

One Ring to rule them all, One Ring to find them, One Ring to bring them all and in the engineering lab bind them.

Alas, darkness has fallen across lands east of Petch fountation, where a large First Nations statue known as The First Man towers over the main entrance of the engineering building. Until recently, he wore a large iron ring over one pinky finger to symbolize his commitment to the calling of an engineer. Now the ring has gone missing.

Inside the cluttered office of the Engineering Students' Society, several students were unaware the ring had been nicked.

"The ring's gone missing?" one asked. "What, again?" asked another.

The origin of the engineers' iron ring dates back to 1922 in Canada and is steeped in lore fit for a Tolkien novel. Seven past presidents of the Engineering Institute of Canada met with Rudyard Kipling, poet and author of *The Jungle Book*, to discuss how to bind the engineering profession closer together. They developed the ceremony "The Ritual of the Calling of the Engineer." The iron ring received at the ceremony is worn on the little finger of the working hand of an engineer. Myth has it that the first iron rings were made from the remnants of a fallen bridge, as a reminder of the professional obligations that engineers should honour.

Matt Edwards, a third-year engineering student and vice president of academics for the Engineering Student's Society, said he noticed the ring missing about two weeks ago.

"I felt pretty choked," he said.

Still, Edwards said he wasn't surprised. He remembers the ring went missing during his first year at UVic too.

"I can definitely see it done to engineers. We build up a lot of animosity against us."

If this happened in Vancouver, where the UBC engineers have gained notoriety for elaborate pranks, the culprits could probably expect to find their car hanging from a bridge. Here at UVic, engineering students are strongly discouraged from causing a ruckus, and their antics are usually harnessed in the annual Bug Push and Order of Pi charity events.

Edwards said he can't imagine putting much effort into finding the ring. It's more likely they'll just make a new one.

One student identified himself to *the Martlet* as one of the culprits, on the condition his name not be printed.

"Engineering students always walk around with their ring on, as a status symbol, and they're so pompous about what they do at school," he said.

He claims the deed was done two weeks ago on Friday, February 13. The theft was committed in broad daylight, around 10:30 a.m. with three others. He said their methods were far from sophisticated.

"We got a big stick and knocked it down," he said, adding that the ring was seen headed towards Elliot building shortly afterwards.

The student said they have three demands for the ring's return: funding, fairness and a foosball table. The last item is known as the prized possession of the Engineering Students' Society office.

"And we're not too sure about the first two at all," he said.

He quipped the following about his group: "I don't know who the ringleader is, but he left a message: *'It's our preciousss, and we wants it.'* "

The ring bandit also offered the following riddle as a hint to their faculty's identity: "Standing on the shoulders of giants, no height is too tall."

NIC HUME PHOTO

Engineering student Matt Edwards wants his faculty's ring back.

Anyone with information about the iron ring's location can e-mail Edwards at essa-vpa@engr.uvic.ca

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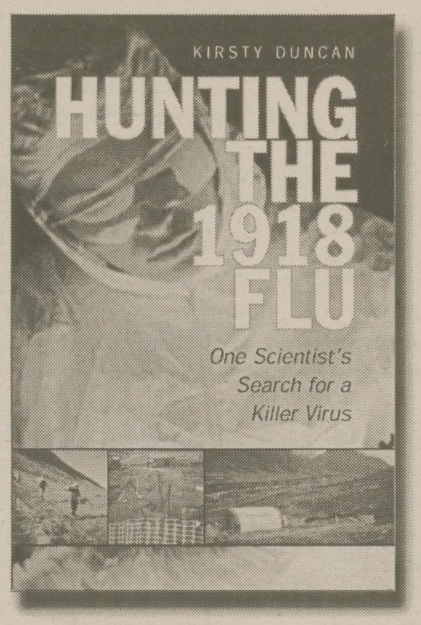

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Kirsty Duncan will be giving a guest lecture at the University of Victoria March 4

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EDITORIAL

Why you should vote

Packs of wild-eyed candidates maraud through campus. Large, paint-smeared banners flap in the wind. Solitary figures stand in the cold, dejected looks on their faces, pamphlets gripped tightly in hands. Yes, that's right, it's election time on campus once more. And this year will be different than most years, because this year you're going to bother getting off your fat ass to vote.

"But I don't even know what the board does," you say. Well sweet reader, don't you fret, for we're about to tell ya.

They're the ones who mug for TV cameras when the provincial government announces they've decided to cut all student grants. They're the ones who staple goofy cartoons of Gordon Campbell around campus. They're the ones who help run the food bank, or decide to introduce activist-approved free-trade organic coffee. They even organize a wonderful social event every February, where you get to hang out with all your friends at the legislature, and there's even a theme, where you bring your favourite placard.

Not impressed? Well, how about the board runs the Student Union Building, an $8 million business. By run, we mean it's a puppet regime where General Manager Marne Jensen rules with an iron fist, but hey, you can still razz your representatives when they jack up the price of pizza, like they did this fall. Yes, sweet pizza, oozing with mozzarella. And you know what? Don't vote, and you withdraw your right to bitch about the rising cost of such greasy delights.

"But all the candidates' posters look the same," you say. "They say the same things, make the same promises, and it all means nothing."

Now now, that's a bit harsh, dontcha think? Still, we see what you mean: the herd impulse. They think if they clump themselves together like wild gazelles, it'll lower their odds of being picked off as individuals. And that is what you must do. Pick them off.

You're walking to class and a pamphlet-wielding candidate approaches. A look of desperation is in her eye, and she's rattling about tuition fees and all that racket. Well, whatchya gonna do?

Find out what they're made of. If you're suspicious this woman is actually a robot built by Joanna Groves, there's only one way to find out. Ask tough questions and see if she short circuits. Or give her a rap on the head and listen for any tinny echo. Just don't walk by without stopping. You don't want your $36 paid in student fees every semester invested in producing more robots, do you?

One good reason to pay attention to campus elections this year is that there's actually an opposition. Don't like how your student union is run? Well, there's an alternative. He claps when Gordon Campbell speaks and thinks that conservatives are a silent majority on campus, a claim about as believable as Dubya Bush's assertion that weapons of mass destruction were buried beneath the sands of Iraq, both which beg the same question–where are they?–but hey, at least you've got choices.

On a slightly more sombre note, the jobs of student politicians are bloody thankless tasks, with long hours and little reward. The work they do isn't clean or pretty or pure, but it's gotta be done. The sense of alienation on campus is also no joke. We need representatives who can do more than puppet the latest Canadian Federation of Students press release. Too bad that cynicism on campus is reinforced by the "message box" strategy of echoing empty slogans. It's a punchy, effective strategy for driving simple ideas home, but candidates need to demonstrate there's a real person beneath their smooth, slate-created edifices.

University campuses are odd little communities. Most of their population is transient, washing in and out every few years, and the rising cost of tuition fees have eroded a common sense of belonging. Thirty years ago, students had the luxury to hang out more often and shoot the shit. Now many are busy working two jobs when they're not in class. Campus has become a place to work, then leave.

Still, if this whole democracy business is all it's cut out to be, surely we should be able to make it work on a scale this small, where you can still physically reach out and wring the necks of those in charge when they screw up.

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and are not necessarily the opinion of all staff members.

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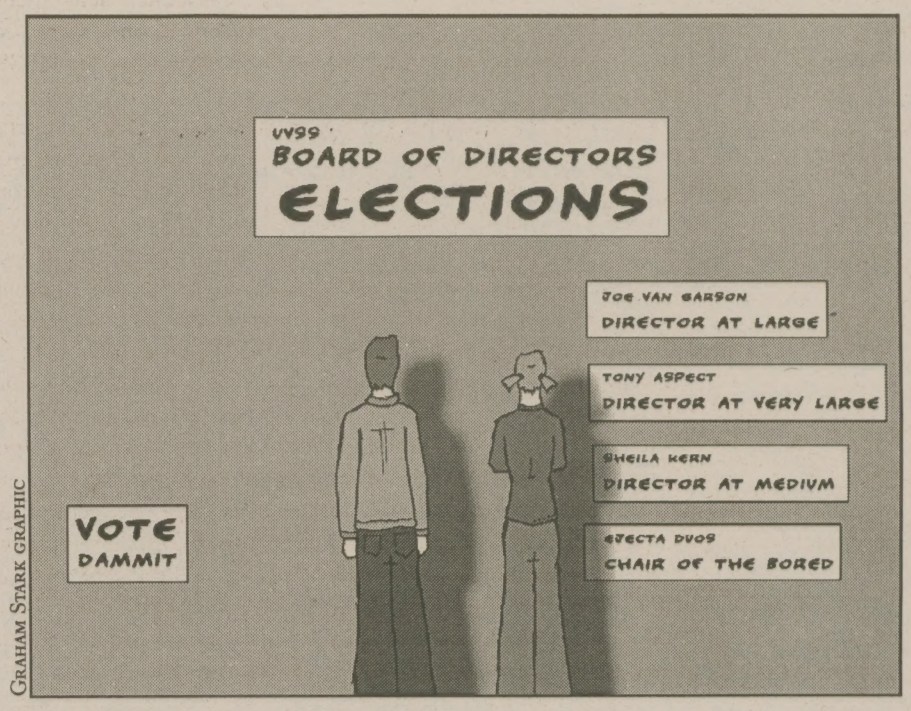

GRAHAM STARK GRAPHIC

"We have a Board of Directors?"

LETTERS

Less hockey, more queers

Dear Martletters,

I was enormously disappointed reading last week's *Martlet*, mostly regarding the editorial "Special Issues Suck" announcing that you're cancelling the queer special issue this year.

I agree with that statement in some regards, obviously the need for special issues does suck, the fact that huge media monopolies in Canada are leaving us with fewer and fewer options requiring alternative media to pick up the slack with "special issues" sucks indeed. But despite the *Globe and Mail's* queer-related article, Canadian mass media is still largely a conservative hegemonic slush offering patronizing queer articles within the boundaries of the neo-conservative "PC talk," or articles about hockey!

Which brings me to my second point. Adding injury to insult, you announce the pulling of the "special issue" in an issue with a cover story about hockey! Are you really trying to be an "average Joe" paper Martletters? Why?

As you mentioned, alternative press is relied upon to offer an alternative–not the average Joe. If I wanted hockey I could pick up any other daily in this country. This is likely your last chance before embarking on careers in the great Hollinger-Southam/Global empires to be radical and subversive, something we so greatly need! Doesn't that sound like fun? If you don't have the energy for "special issues" that's completely your prerogative. But, as a reader who looks forward to and seeks out alternative media to read about things that interest me, all I am hoping for is less hockey and more queers.

Thanks,
Tonya Davidson

Day of Action no "smear campaign"

With all due respect to Dallas Henault, president of UVic's BC Young Liberals, I must disagree with his assessment that the Day of Action was a "smear campaign" against the Liberal government ("BC Young Liberals condemn Day of Action as smear campaign," Feb. 12, 2004).

To claim that the Liberals did not break their promise to maintain the tuition freeze because "the promise was only applicable to the first year" is tantamount to admitting that the BC Liberal party purposely set out to deceive the public in its election campaign.

Even if Dallas' assertion is true, I for one don't find a political party trustworthy that buries its true intent in fine print and semantics, only to spring it on an unsuspecting public later.

And let's be real here: the expression "smear campaign" is reserved for tactics like digging up nasties from a politician's past in an attempt to discredit that politician. Aside from the fact that no one seems to need to do that about Gordon Campbell now, let's keep the use of the expression "smear campaign" to its original meaning, please.

I also cannot agree that the UVSS used Feb. 4 for "political purposes," supposedly arranging for NDP leader Carole James to be in the crowd. Dallas is correct in suggesting that there is a strong contingent of NDPers among the UVSS executive, however, as co-coordinator of a fellow political club opposing the NDP, I must say that I have received nothing but support from the UVSS in operating my club, as it should be from a non-partisan group.

It is also possible for people of the BC Liberal persuasion to run for these offices at any time.

I would also like to point out that there is a UVic NDP club on campus, quite separate from the UVSS, who have eagerly attempted to get Carole James to campus ever since her nomination.

And not only did Ms. James not speak to the crowd, but it would have been equally acceptable for Adriane Carr, or for that matter, Mr. Campbell himself to have shown up at the rally–be a man of the people, so to speak. When a leader no longer feels safe to do that, except among business elite, I'd say something is seriously wrong. Having said all this, I'm not sure why Ms. James was at the rally. She has said she would not roll the tuition hikes back if she were to get into power. Is she implying the freeze never was affordable? I'd like to know just what she does stand for.

As for Joanna Groves' comment that "if Gordon Campbell doesn't take responsibility, then in 16 months we'll do it for him," I don't think this could be construed to be referring to the "NDP doing it for him." Please, Dallas, don't imply that every one opposed to Mr. Campbell's policies is an NDP member–I work so hard to dispel that myth.

Finally, there's the "Gordon Campbell's not as big and mean as everyone thinks he is" thing. Ok, you're right. Whenever I've met a politician in person, they seem just like everyone else.

That still doesn't change the fact that this is a politician who has managed to tear up contracts, break promises, get under virtually everyone's skin except those in big business, bluntly ignore public input solicited by his own government, and smugly claim that the majority of British Columbians are actually behind him.

And it doesn't change the fact that this is a man who has seen fit to cause the people in the province who can least afford it to bear the responsibility for his biggest blunder. This reckless tax cut–most of it to corporations and wealthy–with which Mr. Campbell started off his tenure, makes the fast ferry scandal look like a mere error in judgment.

To close, I would like to challenge Dallas Henault to spend his energy explaining to students, in terms that a child could understand, why Mr. Campbell the nice guy actually does the things he does, rather than complain about the expressions of unpopularity only an insane population would have refrained from expressing. I think that if there were obvious reasons why education funding cuts, and now cuts to all student grants, were necessary, that Mr. Campbell would find himself with a lot more people by his side.

Cheers, Orion Carrier
Co-ordinator, UVic Greens

Martin story applauded

Dear *Martlet* team

Congrats on your story showing the hypocrisy of Martin's words and how wealth is being distributed in our country. Please give my regards to Richard Warnica and Patrick White for their efforts.

Sincerely,Mark Swartz

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Student politics not Liberals versus NDP

BY ROB EASTON

So election campaigning started this week, eh? "Election wha–?" you say. Have any idea what I'm talking about?

No, I'm not talking about your chance to tell the federal Liberals that you don't like how they've been supposedly paying off Liberal friends in sponsorship grants.

No, no. I'm not talking about an opportunity for you to recycle some of those Gordon Campbell caricatures from the Feb. 4 rally in a provincial election.

I'm talking about you! Y'all here at UVic, the undergrad student body. You have the chance to tell the UVSS what you think of their placard holding, Gordon Campbell bashing, I-hate-tuition-you-hate-tuition-we-all-hate-tuition mantra of the past year.

Like it or not, this election season, we're looking at another set of slates, one right, one left, poised to duke it out over how the UVSS should be run for the next year.

Taken from a non-partisan point of view, one cannot ignore how UVSS politics tends to mirror provincial politics in a lot of ways. You have landslide victories in favour of one particular party (Putting Students first and the BC Liberals).

Then, in reaction to what seems like an overwhelming mandate (100 per cent of the seats with something like 10–15 per cent support from the student population on campus, versus the 97 per cent of seats held by the BC Liberals provincially and their 40 per cent mandate and support), you have an elected body that carries on with its agenda with little regard for what the other party has to contribute, leaving democracy and the best compromise–that which I would hope to come out of our political system–left by the wayside.

At the UVSS, new boards of directors are voted in annually, allowing only for the steepest of learning curves for those lucky enough to get elected. The trick, it seems, is to be one of those returning directors with the experience and organizational knowledge to which one can apply his or her party's "message box" with the we love/hate Gordon Campbell message.

In my own case, I ran last year in an election where only two candidates did not get elected. The first opponent, who ran a campaign that called for him to become UVSS's official director of defecation, planned on resigning upon election. The second may have arguably made some unfavourable remarks towards the large percentage of lentil and tofu eating UVSS members in his election platform. In short, I pretty much had to sound like the reincarnation of the Anti-Christ or be arrested on Election Day not to win.

This year does not appear so abysmal. Hopefully, y'all will vote for a wide range of candidates. In fact, we may even have an opportunity to bring about some important debate.

We need to elect a vibrant, representative, diverse board of directors whose real interests lie in making life at UVic and involvement with the UVSS an interesting and rewarding experience for all its nearly 20,000 students. What it definitely should not become is the metaphorical sandbox for the youth wings of the BC Liberals and NDP to hash out their differences before they go down to play with the big kids at the legislature. Vote for the candidates who will make the party line come second to the interests of UVic students.

Smile–You may be on camera

'Surveillance plays a part in student's everyday lives'

BY KEVIN WALBY

Your daily life is caught on camera in many public spaces. University campuses are no exception.

Important questions need to be asked about who gets monitored and what happens with the information. Closed circuit television surveillance (CCTV), in its simplest form, consists of a camera and television monitor–although CCTV can sport such high-tech features as multiple cameras, split screen monitors, and facial/movement recognition software.

Aside from spying on city streets, most banks and large commercial entities have extensive surveillance operations, as do most malls. Walking from store to store, from elevator to escalator, your entire outing is monitored, collected, processed. On the University of Victoria campus, and most Canadian campuses, surveillance plays a part in student's everyday lives–surveillance we give our implicit consent to. The Clearihue building has an extensive monitoring operative, spanning three floors, utilizing CCTV recordings.

According to the University of Victoria's policy on Television Surveillance policy, UVic "collects personal information by CCTV in accordance with sections 26 and 27 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act." The goals of the system are to "deter people from committing acts of harassment or assault and increase the likelihood of identification of person(s) who may commit acts of harassment or assault." Campus surveillance also aims to protect "University property and the property of others located on University property."

Most CCTV cameras in university settings are positioned in a way to protect capital investment or retail enterprise, rather than people. For instance, in the Clearihue building, the camera operative is primarily focused on areas in and around the computer labs, while at other universities the camera's main purpose are to record "pop machines vandals."

It seems that people are less important than pop machines and computers. This may seem like a simplistic statement to make, but it is the unfortunate case that security services at universities all across the country spend excessive amounts of money protecting commercial and retail spaces, while many serious crimes against people go undetected and unsolved.

CCTV could be used to monitor "high-risk" areas on campuses–social spaces where assaults have been known to occur quite regularly. Recent sexual assaults on the University of Saskatchewan campus may have been detered by the watchful eye of a camera, or the assailants may have been captured or identified, if CCTV had been put to productive use.

In some city spaces (e.g. London, UK), there are so many cameras it is next to impossible not to be monitored. The growth of surveillance practices in different societies is predicated on the goals of urban regeneration, commercial protection, and crime reduction–to establish "social order." While there is much speculation by privacy advocates as to whether any of these goals are actually achievable, the growth of surveillance practices is spreading in many nations and regions under this rhetoric.

Take the greater Vancouver area for instance. The SkyTrain system boasted more than 400 cameras in 2001, monitoring all commuter activity on the 28-kilometre route. Camera numbers have climbed to 800 in the last two years of transit system expansion.

Many bridges and major intersections in Vancouver are recorded by CCTV, collecting images of citizens, cataloguing data, sorting and managing the population with a perpetual gaze. Vancouver city police, city officials, and members of the business community are pushing for a 25-camera operative to monitor the lower East side of Vancouver, including Chinatown, Gastown, Strathcona, and the corner of Hastings and Main.

Why? Because according to former Premier Mike Harcourt, "Unless we come to grips with the problems caused by drug addicts we are going to have a very unhealthy city and you can't have a healthy tourism industry and an unhealthy underclass with no hope for the future."

However, it is easy to see that intensified surveillance programs in urban setting are unrelated to dealing with the root causes of crime and social inequality, and therefore perpetuate social disorder by not addressing the issues of marginalization.

Ecuador and the conservation dilemma

BY ROBYN HEASLIP

The day I left the ecological reserve deep in the province of Esmerald in Ecuador, I heard that an international logging company had made a proposal to the people of these forests. They would build them a proper road, if the foresters could have access to the interior. As I opened my mouth to protest, I found that no words came out. Instead I thought to myself what a difference that road would make to the lives of these people.

This ecological reserve in the tropical cloud forests of Ecuador had been my home for two months. What had happened to my conservation principles in this time? Nothing–except a good dose of understanding context.

Looking out from the muddy road just outside the reserve, I saw smoke rising. The local people continued to burn up the forest to create farmland. This reality seemed lost to a group of bird researchers I assisted from the University of California. The researchers hope to use the results of an in-depth study of the behavior and ecology of the endangered Umbrella bird to lobby for the protection of this unique forest habitat. I asked these researchers how long they expected to work on this project before they could begin to use their results to lobby for the forests' protection? The answer: five to ten years. Would there be a forest left to protect in ten years? Who is this research really going to benefit: the people of these forests or western science?

The people of the community of Mono (which means monkey) regularly make the ten-hour trek to the nearest trade center to sell the cacao they collect and buy the necessities. They invited a group of volunteers from the reserve to attend their annual fiesta. Before this event, we spent many nights discussing what we might be able to bring to the community in terms of our knowledge in the areas of conservation and ecology. I thought a lot about the local practice of hunting monkeys—inside the ecological reserve there are guards who have guns to ward off the hunters. This practice is lowering the diversity within the gene pool of the local monkey population. If the diversity gets too low, it may be difficult for the population to persist.

How would I ever explain this, and would it mean anything to the people in Canada? I soon realized what a ridiculous question this was in the context of a much more significant problem–the human need for protein.

A pig was slaughtered for the annual fiesta and eaten at each meal for three days. It is very likely that this is the first protein many of the families had eaten in a long time, outside of monkey meat. Normal meals consist of rice, three times a day if they can afford it, supplemented by bananas. I was not able to talk about the conservations issues surrounding hunting monkeys . . . not when at home I have a grocery store full of . . . well everything.

During the journey back to the reserve, as I pulled each boot out of the knee-deep mud on the forest trail and plunged the next back in, I thought to myself, "In the reality of this context, there will be no conservation until we can address poverty."

B.C.'s heartland in need of a bypass

by Patrick White

It's a summer Saturday night and Vanderhoof's only pub is dead. My cousin Dan and I, fresh from three filthy, sleep-deprived weeks running excavators for a logging operation in the middle of nowhere, can't find anyone who wants to bullshit, fight or go home with us, so we call the night a total loss and head out the door.

We walk a short distance in the brisk northern night air to Dan's truck. There's an eerie silence sitting on the town occupying the geographic centre of B.C., 100 kilometres west of Prince George. The street lights lining what passes for Vanderhoof's downtown are on, but nobody's home.

A huge moon dresses hay fields in dark yellow on our drive home. Speeding past a feed lot where cattle are fattened up before they're sent off to slaughter, I see the outlines of livestock milling around a long trough of grain. Thanks to mad cow disease these cattle are safe from the slaughter saw for the foreseeable future. But while these animals chew pricey feed, worried ranchers all over town are probably popping valium just to get a few hours of sleep.

The next morning I head out early with my boss, Dave Stephen, to stalk another threat to this two-resource town: the mountain pine beetle. We roam the forest overlooking Vanderhoof from the northwest in search of pines with yellow limbs and pitch oozing out through their bark, two sure signs that beetles have landed.

From our perch in the hills, Dave and I can see much of the Nechako River Valley where Vanderhoof sits. A casual glance at the scenery is enough to figure out the economic bases of the town: two lumber mills emit towering plumes of white smoke to

expanses of pine were supposed to be his future, and now they're falling victim to a bug the size of a grain of rice.

The current mountain pine beetle infestation is the biggest North America has ever seen at 4.3 million hectares of forest affected and growing. That's three quarters the size of Sweden and seven times the size of Vancouver Island.

Whatever the scale, the effects on pine-dependent interior towns are unquestionable. According to a report delivered by the province's chief forester in October, the Quesnel forest district will abandon beetle containment efforts this year and simply focus on salvaging dead trees.

The assistant provincial bark beetle coordinator, Barry Dobbin, says Vanderhoof will soon have to do the same.

"The main thrust there is to continue maximizing the harvest," he said. "In two years it will become more of a salvage operation."

The beetles generally emerge from the bark of pine trees in mid-summer, then fly up to 30 kilometres in search of untouched mature pines. Females are usually the first to land. They release pheromones that attract male pine beetles who then release their own pheromones to attract more females.

In this way a virgin pine tree can be infested within a few days. The beetles spend the fall months burrowing tunnels, or galleries, in the tree and laying eggs. When winter comes, the adult beetles generally die off, but the larvae build up a kind of antifreeze in their blood that allows them to resist cold temperatures.

Allan Carroll, a biologist at the federally-run Pacific Forestry Centre in Victoria, spends May through October hiking through bug-infested stands studying the causes of the outbreak. He says

he keeps at the feedlot to southern packing plants.

"We're okay for now," he says, "but we can't last much longer like this. I'm not sure what we're going to do."

Martens watches his cattle consume a few thousand dollars worth of feed a day, and there's not much he can do to stop it. The American border has been firmly closed to live cattle since May 20, 2003, when a single case of Bovine Spongiform-Encephalopathy (BSE), or mad cow disease, showed up on an Alberta farm.

From most accounts, live Canadian cattle won't be traveling over the American border anytime soon. Following the discovery of a second Canadian-born cow with BSE in Washington state in September, any hopes of quickly opening the border to live animals were dashed.

The U.S. has resumed imports of some Canadian products, such as boneless beef, but producers like Martens are anxious to resume trade in live animals. In May of last year, the price for steer fell from $1.15 per pound down to 35 cents in the late summer–not nearly enough to pay the bills.

Following the first BSE discovery last year, the federal government introduced a cull program that guaranteed feed lots a certain price for all head sent to slaughter. "It helped, but it still didn't cover the costs," said Martens.

Martens is looking at another potentially disastrous year ahead. All of the cattle he's currently fattening up to sell to slaughter houses will be ready to ship in March. There are only three slaughterhouses in Western Canada and none of them are willing to pay enough for Martens to break even.

and southern Canadian population has largely averted this fate by taking on new industries, primary-resource towns continue to hoe a rocky row.

Innis's theory is playing out in Vanderhoof, where biology and

From our perch in the hills, Dave and I can see much of the Nechako River Valley where Vanderhoof sits. A casual glance at the scenery is enough to figure out the economic bases of the town: two lumber mills emit towering plumes of white smoke to the west, and the remainder of our view consists of long, flat fields spotted with a few thousand cattle.

Food and logging have been the mainstays of the Vanderhoof area since it was first laid out by the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway prior to the First World War, but mad cow disease and the mountain pine beetle may change that. A provincial government that swept into power bearing the promise of revitalizing the "Heartland," their catch-all phrase applied to every region outside Victoria and Vancouver, has not delivered.

"They've done nothing for us," says Dave. "All they seem to care about these days is the Olympics. What's the Olympics gonna do for loggers and farmers?"

The tree business

"I feel sick," says Dave as we bump up the Kenney Dam Road just south of Vanderhoof, closing in on the heart of the bug outbreak. It's not the shoddy logging road that's making Dave sick–he's spent most his life on back roads. It's the scenery.

"Ho-ly. I can't believe it," he says when we hit the top of a rise in the road and slow to an idle. We can see a vast expanse of blue sky, a few lakes and innumerable trees. But every tree is red, and for evergreens like the lodge pole pines standing before us, red is dead.

"I was cutting up here just last year and it was all green," he says. "Now she's all dead. That's my future right there."

Dave Stephen started in these woods when he was 24. That's when he bought his first feller-buncher, a massive tree-cutting machine capable of falling in one day what a guy with a chainsaw used to take a week to do. Today he and his brother have four feller-bunchers and around $2 million invested in various other equipment.

Dave can't take any more driving through red trees. This is the front line in the battle against the bugs, so the Ministry of Forests will let Dave log any infected trees he finds, meaning a rise in business for the present time. But it won't last. The untouched blood that allows them to resist cold temperatures.

Allan Carroll, a biologist at the federally-run Pacific Forestry Centre in Victoria, spends May through October hiking through bug-infested stands studying the causes of the outbreak. He says that the beetles mainly attack pine trees 80 years of age or older. Because two-thirds of B.C.'s pine is in this age category, a huge portion of the forest industry's most valuable wood could die off in the next 15 years.

Higher-than-average temperatures in northern B.C. have allowed the beetle to move south and north into areas that have never seen it before. Carroll says the build-up of antifreeze makes the beetle very difficult to kill, even for mother nature.

"We often point to cold weather as this panacea for killing beetles," he said. "But the mountain pine beetle is actually very well adapted to the cold. The antifreeze builds up progressively as the season goes on, so by January or February it will easily withstand temperatures of minus 40."

He says that cold weather can only kill off significant numbers of beetles if it comes in the late fall or early spring. The last major beetle outbreak ended on Halloween night of 1985 when Vanderhoof-area trick-or-treaters shivered in minus 37 degree cold.

Dave Stephen believes a bust is on the horizon. A full harvest is good for his bottom line today, but in a few years there may be nothing left for him to cut.

"Five to ten years and I'll be out of logging," he says. "I know that right now. There just won't be anything more to cut."

The beef business

After a few hours of stalking bugs, Dave and I head back to his shop. We've got a logging truck to repair before we can head back to the bush.

In the midst of the job, Richard Martens walks through the shop door. He's a short bald man with a barrel-chest and forearms that'll lift a hundred pound calf in the air like it's a kitten.

He has more time to stop by the shop and bullshit than he'd like these days. As the manager of one of the only feedlots in town, the border closure has stalled his summer operations. Normally around this time of year he'd be in the middle of shipping the 4,000 cattle All of the cattle he's currently fattening up to sell to slaughter houses will be ready to ship in March. There are only three slaughterhouses in Western Canada and none of them are willing to pay enough for Martens to break even.

"I need 85 cents a pound to break even," he said. "Right now they're telling me I'll get 60. The federal government has told us that there's no more money. The provincial government won't do anything. They've said all along that they don't have any money and they've stuck to that.

"If the border doesn't open up soon, we're gonna lose big time."

Banks are telling many feedlots they cannot buy any more cattle until their financial picture improves. None of those feedlots have had to shut down–yet.

Some ranchers haven't been so lucky. Late last year a Lethbridge-area family had their entire herd seized by animal welfare officials. Around 100 sickly cattle were taken from the Wright family ranch because many of them were so malnourished they could barely stand on four legs.

"First it's mad cow and you're just trying to stay afloat and now this," ranch owner Ken Wright told local reporters. After the first BSE discovery caused the price of cattle to plummet, Wright could no longer afford to feed his cattle regularly. The Alberta SPCA also discovered a "significant" number of dead animals on the Wright farm. Vanderhoof ranchers have yet to reach comparable desperation.

Luckily, the logging industry is booming in Vanderhoof for the time being. Anybody who loses out on cattle can move on to cutting trees. But they shouldn't expect to stay there for long.

The future

Part of the problem is that Vanderhoof and small towns like it across B.C. are tangled up in the age-old description of Canada as "a hewer of wood and a drawer of water." In the early part of the 20th century, the Canadian economy was a supplier of primary resources like fur, lumber, minerals, food and energy to the rest of the world. Pioneering Canadian economist Harold Innis warned that relying entirely on primary resources would eventually bankrupt the economy and the environment. While the central and southern Canadian population has largely averted this fate by taking on new industries, primary-resource towns continue to hoe a rocky row.

Innis's theory is playing out in Vanderhoof, where biology and the bottom line are battling, but neither the provincial nor federal governments have done much to help.

"The province hasn't done a thing," says Dave of the provincial Liberals who came to power promising to reinvigorate B.C.'s interior, or "Heartland," economies. "If anything they've made things around here worse."

While the province has continually denied funding to farmers hard hit by BSE, they did promise to help communities affected by a slowdown in the forest economy. But little of that money has made it to northern communities.

"They still haven't allocated much assistance into this region, and this is the region that's hurting," says Vanderhoof mayor Len Fox. "I do not expect government money. Just work with us and help us diversify our economy."

So far, industry and government have responded to pleas from communities with no more than half-baked initiatives many fear are doomed to fail.

"We're looking at helping these communities buffer what economic activity might be lost by a drop in available timber," says Doug Routledge, vice-president of northern operations for the Council of Forest Industries, an influential lobby group representing most of B.C.'s major forest companies. "This could be as simple as attracting call centres and home-based businesses."

Mayor Fox scoffs at the idea of loggers coming in from the bush to sit and answer phones.

"Replacing 25-dollar-an-hour jobs with seven- or eight-dollar-an-hour jobs in a call centre really isn't going to do a lot for us."

Fox wants governments to attract new jobs by investing in an infrastructure that will draw more than just logging companies and farmers. He noted that the town still doesn't have high-speed Internet.

"We have to look for something that is going to give us the same quality of life we are used to. Selling peanuts alongside the highway to tourists isn't one of them."

Mountain pine beetles mounting an attack on a fallen tree in the Northern Interior Forest Region.

The trunk of a lodgepole pine showing "pitch tubes" from a mountain pine beetle attack.

The Oscars: Who will win and who won't

PREDICTIONS BY BRIONY SMITH AND RICHARD WARNICA

Best Actor

Sean Penn

Briony: I think that Sean "Surly" Penn is the winner here. His performance in *Mystic River* was absolutely amazing. It's hard to play grief without going over the top, and he just nails it. He has been nominated before and has done consistently good films, including his masterful turn in this year's *21 Grams*. I think that the duo of these films will win him his first Academy Award.

Bill Murray

Richard: Overstatement, over-acting and over-the-top-emotion has always dominated the Oscars. Bill Murray's performance in *Lost in Translation* is none of that and that is why it should win. It was a master of comedic and emotional understatement and by far the best performance of his career. *Mystic River* isn't even Sean Penn's best performance of the year, let alone his career. Murray deserves to win, and Murray will win.

Best Actress

Charlize Theron

Big ugly = big Oscar

Corollary: The actress can only win if she is Big Hottie in real life.

Best Supporting Actor

Tim Robbins

Briony: I love Alec Baldwin. But I haven't seen *The Cooler*. No one did, mainly because William H. Macy is naked in it. But Alec Baldwin–now there's a class act. He won't win, though.

Richard: I enjoy Stephen Baldwin, especially in *Celebrity Fear Factor*. That being said, *Mystic River*'s Tim Robbins is not a Baldwin. He will probably win. He wouldn't if the category was called "Best Supporting Baldwin." Then Billy would win for sure.

Best Supporting Actress

Shohreh Agdashloo

Richard: Do you remember when Holly Hunter was in *The Piano*, and she didn't speak in the entire movie, but she was still really good?

Well she talks a lot in *Thirteen* and she kind of sucks, so she won't win.

I think Shohreh Agdashloo will, but really that's just conjecture because I haven't seen *House of Sand and Fog*.

Renée Zellweger

Briony: Miramax, former king of the Oscar dominion, was disappointed to find that their extensive expensive campaign for *Cold Mountain* did not net them the Best Picture nod they wanted, losing their assumed place to the pony picture, *Seabiscuit*.

But Renée Zellweger has done her time in the bridesmaid circle and is ready to step up to the podium.

She is well-dressed, well-publicized, and even if her performance wasn't the best, she plays a plucky Civil War lass who'll blush prettily when she accepts her statuette. Julia Roberts won her Best Actress award this way, and Renée will follow in her footsteps.

Documentary

Richard: There is an argument to be made that *Capturing the Friedmans* is not just the best documentary of 2003, but the best film as well. The raw emotion in the home videos of the rapidly crumbling Friedman family far outstrips that in any of the main dramatic contenders. That being said, last year the left-leaning Academy awarded Michael Moore's shlocky *Bowling for Columbine* ahead of the much better *Spellbound*. So it wouldn't be shocking if they choose the political exposé *The Fog of War* ahead of *Capturing the Friedmans*.

Briony: *The Fog of War* has my vote. Doc virtuoso Errol Morris, who has made some of the best-received documentaries in recent years, directed it–it's his time to be recognized by a wider audience. Plus, everyone loves bespectacled '70s warlord Robert McNamara, and the heavy Americana flavour will beat out the child molestation fun of the Friedman clan.

Best Picture

Lost in Translation

Richard: *Lost in Translation* has the perfect amount of story for a feature film. In its hundred odd minutes it taps a perfect narrative vein by being neither too long nor too short. I could list a myriad detailed reasons why this is the best film of the year, but I won't. Suffice to say that it is the sexiest, smartest, most entirely pleasing movie I have seen in a very long time. Just for the fact that it managed to leave me feeling neither emotionally phony nor horrifically sad, it deserves to win this award, but . . .

Mystic River

Briony: I am particularly partial to the drama *Mystic River*, with its ridiculously talented cast, filled with Oscar winners and Oscar contenders, sure subtle direction, and elegant cinematography.

This film is powerful and moving, yet it has only the slimmest of chances of winning Best Picture, as Clint has a Best Picture win under his belt from a mere decade ago (*Unforgiven*), but…

Briony and Richard: *The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King* will take it.

Fuckers.

Best Director

Fernando Meirelles

Briony: While *Return of the King* will almost surely take Best Picture, Peter Jackson is also a lock to win the coveted Best Director award, having been bestowed the Directors' Guild prize, which correlates with the Oscar win virtually every year. It is unfortunate that archetype and spectacle is being honoured in a year when such a young talented filmmaker has directed such a stunning picture with Brazil's *City of God*.

The frenetic pace and riveting story are splashed on the screen in this brilliantly choreographed masterpiece of film by Fernando Meirelles.

Sofia Coppola

Richard: What is good direction? Is it to stand back and let brilliant acting speak for itself a la Clint Eastwood in *Mystic River*? Or is it to coax genius out of an aging comic and a teenage phenom as per Sophia Coppola in *Lost in Translation*?

I really don't know. I don't know how to separate the overall strength of a film from the strength of its direction. For me *Lost in Translation* is the best film, ergo Sophia Coppola is the best director.

WIN!

tickets to the see the Broken Social Scene or a surprise compilation CD with one of their tunes.

Just come by sub b011 and tell an arts editor your antidote to February grayness.

OSCAR NOMINATIONS WE'D LIKE TO SEE

Briony

Best Voice Talent: Ellen DeGeneres and Albert Brooks in *Finding Nemo*, or Andy Serkis in *The Return of the King*
Best Director, Best Screenwriter: David Gordon George, *All the Real Girls* or Michael Polish (director/writer) and Mark Polish (writer), *Northfork*
Best Actor: Paul Giamatti, *American Splendor* or Philip Seymour Hoffman, *Owning Mahowny*
Best Editing: Sally Menke, *Kill Bill Vol. 1*

Richard

Best reason to learn French: Denys Arcand's *The Barbarian Invasions*
Best cameo by a trendy alt-rocker in a film starring his current beau: Jack White in *Cold Mountain*
Best Movie set almost entirely in a phone booth: *Phone Booth*

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Oscar fun with facts 'n' figures

BY BRIONY SMITH

At the 66th Oscars, Tom Hanks delivered an emotional acceptance speech for his Best Actor award for *Philadelphia* (1993), where he thanked his gay teacher as his inspiration. The speech became inspiration for the film *In & Out* (1997), in which an actor wins an Academy Award and thanks his closeted gay teacher in his acceptance speech.

Donald Kaufman and Charlie Kaufman were nominated for a Best Writing (Screenplay Based on Material Previously Produced or Published) Oscar for *Adaptation* (2002), despite Donald being a fictional character. The Academy made it known that, in the event of a victory, the two brothers would have to share one statuette.

All About Eve (1950) set a record with 14 Academy Award nominations, which has been tied only by *Titanic* (1997).

A Clockwork Orange (1971) is one of only two movies rated X on its original release–the other being *Midnight Cowboy* (1969)–to be nominated for Best Picture at the Academy Awards.

Following her Best Actress win for *Monster* at the 2002 Oscars, Halle Berry became the first Academy Award-winner to also be a "Bond Girl".

The Godfather, the Best Picture of 1972, was the first winner to be even partially set in Los Angeles, the first to depict the film industry and the first in which an Oscar statuette is visible.

Marlon Brando and Robert DeNiro are the only two actors to ever win separate Oscars for playing the same character. Marlon Brando won Best Actor for *The Godfather* (1972) and Robert De Niro won Best Supporting Actor for *The Godfather, Part II* (1974), both in the role of Vito Corleone.

Hattie McDaniel, from *Gone with the Wind* (1939), became the first African-American to be nominated for, and to win, an Academy Award.

Writer Robert Towne used the name of his sheepdog, P.H. Vazak, as his credit for *Greystoke: The Legend of Tarzan, Lord of the Apes* (1984) reportedly because he was dissatisfied with the finished film. This means a dog was nominated for an Academy Award.

The screenplay for *High Society* (1955) was mistakenly nominated for an Academy Award when the Academy nominating committee confused the title with the Bing Crosby / Grace Kelly musical *High Society* (1956) released the following year. The writers graciously declined the nomination.

There is a persistent rumour that Anna Paquin read out the wrong name for the Best Supporting Actress Award at the 1993 Oscars and that Marisa Tomei won the Award for her performance in *My Cousin Vinny* by accident.

Once, when David Niven was a presenter at the Oscars, a man streaked in front of him, causing Niven to quip "Isn't it fascinating to think that probably the only laugh that man will ever get in his life is by stripping off and showing his shortcomings." The streaker was murdered years later.

Greer Garson's Best Actress acceptance speech for *Mrs. Miniver* (1942) lasted an incredible 5 1/2 minutes, making it a Hollywood record.

Beatrice Straight's Oscar-winning role in *Network* (1976) lasted a mere 5 minutes and 40 seconds on screen, making her performance the briefest ever to win an acting Oscar. Judi Dench won an Academy Award for her role as Queen Elizabeth in *Shakespeare in Love* (1998), although she is onscreen for only about six minutes in four scenes.

Marlon Brando's Oscar for Best Actor for *On the Waterfront* (1954) was either lost or stolen. The award did show up later when Brando was contacted by a London auction house intending to sell the item.

The original writer of *Roman Holiday* (1953) was blacklisted during the McCarthy era and so could not receive acclaim for the screenplay, even when it won the Academy Award for Best Screenplay. His wife was finally presented with the award in 1993 long after his death.

The Silence of the Lambs (1991) is only the third movie to win all five major Oscars: Best Picture, Best Director, Best Actor, Best Actress, and Best Screenplay. The others were Frank Capra's *It Happened One Night* (1934) and Milos Forman's *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* (1975).

With less than 16 minutes of screen time in *The Silence of the Lambs* (1991), Anthony Hopkins' performance was the shortest ever to win a leading actor Oscar.

The "special" Academy Award granted to *Snow White and the Seven Dwarves* (1937) consisted of one regular sized award and seven smaller sized awards.

Roberto Benigni (*Life is Beautiful*, 1997) and Laurence Olivier (*Hamlet*, 1948) are the only two actors to have directed themselves in Oscar-winning performances.

Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf (1966) is the only film in Academy history to be nominated in every eligible category: picture, actor, actress, supporting actor, supporting actress, director, adapted screenplay, art direction/set decoration (b&w), cinematography (b&w), sound, costume design (b&w), music score and film editing.

Linda Hunt is the only actress ever to win an Academy Award playing a man (*The Year of Living Dangerously*, 1984), no cross-dressing or gender confusion involved. Hilary Swank (*Boys Don't Cry*, 1999) received the award for playing a woman who was pretending to be a man. Gwyneth Paltrow (*Shakespeare in Love*, 1998) received one for playing a woman who was pretending to be a man pretending to be a woman.

James Stewart had no plans to attend the Oscar ceremony the year he was nominated for *The Philadelphia* Story (1940). Just before the ceremony began, he received a call at home "advising" him to slip into a dinner jacket and attend the ceremony. He did and he received the award for Best Actor. This was in the days before an accounting firm kept the Oscar voting results secret.

Susan Sarandon and Tim Robbins created a controversy when, in 1993, prior to presenting the award for Best Editing, they made a personal plea on behalf of 200 HIV-positive Haitians who were being detained at the U.S. Naval Base at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba after having tried to reach Florida.

The crew of the orbiting space shuttle Atlantis (STS-45) participated in the presentation of the Thalberg Memorial Award to George Lucas in 1992–an Oscar statuette was aboard the shuttle in tribute to its participation in the ceremony.

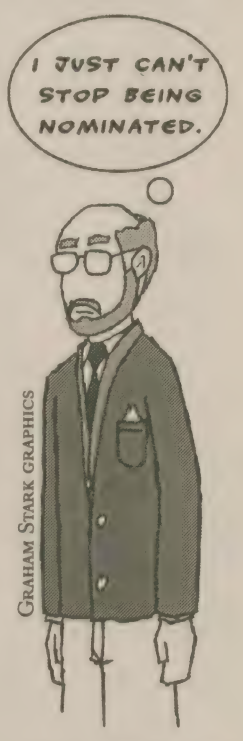
As an incentive to keep the show's running time short in 2001, a television was offered to whoever gave the shortest acceptance speech. The prize went to Michael Dudok de Wit who won, interestingly enough, for Best Animated Short.

In 1999, a great deal of controversy surrounded the awarding of an honorary Oscar to Elia Kazan, as there remained much lingering resentment stemming from his testimony before the House Un-American Activities Committee 47 years earlier. In addition to a handful of protesters outside the theater, many members of the audience remained seated when he received his award and refused to even applaud.

Upon receiving the Best Actor award for his performance in *Life is Beautiful* (1997), Roberto Benigni said "Thank you. This is a terrible mistake, because I used up all my English!"

George C. Scott won the Academy Award for best actor in *Patton* (1970) and famously refused to accept it, stating that competition between actors was unfair and calling it a "meat parade."

Meryl Streep has the most nominations of any actress, with 13 nominations, but Katharine Hepburn holds the distinction of the most wins with four Leading Actress Oscars.



GRAHAM STARK GRAPHICS

Composer John Williams' 42 nominations make him the most nominated living person.

Only three women have been nominated for achievement in Directing: Jane Campion in 1993 for *The Piano*, Sofia Coppola in 2003 for *Lost in Translation* and Lina Wertmüller in 1976 for *Seven Beauties*.

Alfred Hitchcock, Martin Scorsese, Robert Altman, Charlie Chaplin, Oliver Stone, Spike Lee, and Orson Welles are some of the famous directors who have never won an Oscar.

No one knows how the statuette got the nickname Oscar for sure. A popular story has been that Academy librarian and eventual executive director Margaret Herrick said that it resembled her Uncle Oscar. A reporter allegedly overheard her and helped brand the golden guy. In any case, by the sixth Awards Presentation in 1934, Hollywood columnist Sidney Skolsky used the name in his column in reference to Katharine Hepburn's first Best Actress win. The Academy itself didn't use the nickname officially until 1939.

Compiled from the Internet Movie Data Base (IMDB) and oscars.com.

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The glory of glenna

Indie songstress keeps a-movin'

BY MARJORIE CELONA

PROVIDED PHOTO

Local indie sensation glenna is a writing student at UVic.

Indie songstress Glenna Garramone is hittin' the road.

"Seven cities, three artists, one car," the Toronto-born musician says. She takes a sip of ginseng tea. "I can't wait."

The 22-year-old singer/songwriter and UVic writing student will be sandwiched between San Francisco cartoonist Keith Knight and Montreal spoken word artist Corey Frost for their eight-day independent tour, the Perpetual Motion Roadshow.

Garramone, who goes by glenna when performing, has released three solo albums in the past five years–her first when she was 17.

Her music–think the piano riffs of Tori Amos meet the lyrical confessions of Ani Difranco–combines her mezzo-soprano voice, superior piano and guitar skills with her love of dance: on the title track of her latest album, *i am the eye*, Garramone tap-dances while she performs spoken word.

Garramone began writing songs at age five and studied piano, guitar, voice, percussion and music theory throughout her childhood. She began performing when she was 14.

"In my head I could hear this song. I had a feeling of what I wanted to play and it didn't exist yet–I wrote what I needed to hear," she says of her first album, *Opus*. The album, soft and almost exclusively piano, was released in Waterloo when she was 17.

Since moving to Victoria in 2001, she has released *glenna is singing* (2002), and *i am the eye* (2003).

While her style has become progressively edgier and aggressive, she still possesses a heartbreaking honesty and youthful sense of hope.

"Life is like a bottle broken in two," she sings in "Broken Bottle," off her latest album. "And we could use a broken bottle like a weapon, or we could use a broken bottle like a tool."

"It's still very personal," Garramone says, whose live performances have been known to bring her audiences to tears.

"She's in the moment for sure," says Brandy Baybutt, a teacher at the Lynda Raino Dance Studio, where Garramone has studied for the past year. "She's an incredibly creative performer and she's very honest–she's not trying to pretend she's superhuman. I think that's rare."

Indeed, it's the kind of music that makes you want to pace around the house, trying to match your voice to hers until you can put the lyrics down. In short, glenna makes you want to sing.

"I aim to do things that will make people feel more alive," she says.

Her latest project Speak Art, an evening of poetry, storytelling, spoken word and song, is a fundraiser for her up-coming March tour and a way of promoting spoken word.

"The goal is to breathe more life into spoken word," Garramone says. "Where's the spoken word scene in Victoria?" she asks. "Damn, let's make it."

Her gung-ho attitude also led to the birth of Wimmin in Music, a bimonthly event at the Solstice Café.

"I wanted to make an opportunity that was more suitable for me," Garramone says. "The [open mic] scene was really male-dominated."

Garramone and local performer Leah Abramson began producing the event in 2001 to promote local female artists.

On March 23, Garramone takes off on the Perpetual Motion Roadshow. The guerrilla tour is about three artists–independent authors and performing artists–promoting their work–a cross between a poetry reading and a variety show.

Garramone will travel from Victoria to Los Angeles and back again, performing in the major cities along the way.

"I'm most at home on a bus or a stage," she says, adding that she plans to spend the next 10 years on the road.

As for fame and fortune, Garramone looks to artists like Martin Sexton and Tori Amos for inspiration.

"It's not like [they] gained fame and then got comfortable. Selling out is about not pushing yourself artistically, but signing up with a record label, that's not selling out–that's selling. "I'm committed to my own success–it's a long-term process. I want to constantly grow as a musician, to never stop playing."

Glenna plays Thursday, Feb. 26 at Speak Art, an evening of poetry, story telling, song and spoken word featuring Lisa B., Cat Thom, glenna, Talus, Art Napoleon and others. 7:30 p.m. Glenna is also playing at Lucky Bar on March 13 for the launch of this year's edition of This Side of West.

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Remedios photo

Toronto band Broken Social Scene provides the cure to February's pop boredom

A prescription for music

by Zoë Bake-Paterson

Broken Social Scene
Bee Hives
Arts & Crafts

Early morning, and it has to be the grayest day of the year. You wait at the bus stop, cold as hell, and there's a sweet sweet song playing in your head.

Maybe you know the song by heart. Maybe you've never heard it before. But that song is a Broken Social Scene tune.

"It's an antidote to February," says Andrew Whiteman of Broken Social Scene about their new record *Bee Hives*. (Better make that an antidote to March, since the album isn't released until next month.)

The Toronto band has a knack for playing music you were just waiting to hear. It's the sound you knew was missing, like the time you hopped off the bus without your umbrella or mittens–until you can pinpoint the loss, it's just a gnawing thought in the back of your head. Then it hits you. It becomes concrete, and suddenly your fingers are cold, your head wet, or maybe you just heard Broken Social Scene for the first time.

It's the third record for this band, following *Feel Good Lost* (2001) and *You Forgot it in People* (2002) yet "we're still in the basement like every other Canadian band," says Whiteman. It's this heartfelt down-to-earth vibe mixed with experimentation and a lyrical style that makes this band the perfect "mood record" for the rising spring.

"I was always the kid who had the transistor radio under his pillow as I was falling asleep," says Whiteman. This is how he began his musical career. "I'm a bit of guitar geek, but that's me." He prefers to play bass because he doesn't get to play it enough. That makes sense for someone in a band like Broken Social Scene, who "all kind-of do everything." When asked, Andrew Whiteman says he plays guitar, bass, keyboards and sings.

Broken Social Scene gets around as much as they play around. They've come from various bands, and jammed or performed with members from By Divine Right, Metric, The Stars, Raising the Fawn, Do Make Say Think, and, of course, K.C. Accidental where it all began.

"For someone who has a voracious musical appetite–which everyone in the band has–it's great," says Whiteman, about playing with so many folks from other bands.

The web of performers, "broken affiliates" as the website calls them, is daunting and switches up frequently although the core five–Kevin Drew, Brendan Canning, Jason Collett, Justin Peroff and Andrew Whiteman–remains constant.

The tour this round, and there have been many since the group formed, is unusual because "we couldn't get any of our ladies to come with us this time," says Whiteman.

He is speaking of Emily Haines (Metric), Amy Millan (Stars), and Leslie Feist who often perform as part of Broken Social Scene.

"Yes, it will definitely be different, having women–I think I speak for everyone–is vital. But we're not a normal band," says Whiteman. He is referring to how Broken Social Scene works on vibe: they can't just rush out and replace someone because they need female vocals. "I personally am going to try and convince Kevin to do the women's roles."

Leaving Toronto with sharp memories of a fantastic concert at the Pheonix Theatre, a show where over a dozen broken affiliates jammed on stage, Broken Social Scene is moving west to begin a cross-continent tour. The sound is experimental pop–sometimes four guitars at once, occasional lyrics and people switching instruments regularly–and the outcome is truly sweet sweet sounds.

Their new album, *Bee Hives*, is described as "our blue pill" by Kevin Drew and by Whiteman as "a love record." But whether it's a Matrix-style release from ordinary sound or a mellow antidote, Broken Social Scene and their newest album are more than memorable.

Broken Social Scene plays in the 12th Anniversary Exclaim! Tour with The Stills on Tuesday, March 2, 9 p.m. at Legends.

Get grooves!

by Andrea Spina

If you're looking for some groove, search no more. Greenlaw Avenue is popping up at shows all over town.

Their tunes are best described as "soul, jazz, groove, dub with thought-provoking lyrics," said vocalist Skyla J, who also plays the flute and trumpet.

The origins of the band began with Skyla J and bassist Michael Anthony, who have been musical partners for the past seven years, beginning with the project Selective Collective. They wanted more control over their instrumental sound, so joined up with guitarist Keith Stirling to create the original members of Greenlaw Avenue. James Hope was then brought in to play drums. It's now two years later, and Greenlaw Avenue has been around.

Each of the band members has had several years of experience working in the music industry. They average seven to 15 years of musical experience and each has their own story about how they became involved in the business.

Skyla J has been intrigued by music her whole life, particularly singing. "It's what I love to do because you're in a position to affect people," she said.

"It all started in '95," said Anthony. He played bass with the band Digg, and before that he began his career as an MC.

Stirling jokes that he thought a career in music would be easy but added, "little did I know . . ." He said he became fascinated with the business through "radio and B.B. King."

Hope began his musical career at a young age and, like the rest of the band, says he is completely focused on the music.

Greenlaw Avenue just released its first album in May 2003. After finishing a cross-Canada tour, they recorded live in Victoria.

The band also has an independent video coming out at the end of February. The song "High Rise" was chosen for the video because the band felt they received the most feedback from fans on that tune.

Greenlaw Avenue loves being based out of Victoria, hometown of Skyla J, who said it is a "very beautiful, intensely energetic place." The entire band agrees that Victoria is a great source of inspiration for creativity and that the fans are very warm and receiving.

Greenlaw Avenue unanimously agrees that Steamers Pub has been their favourite place to perform because they find their live music matches the lively audience and provides a great atmosphere.

This band appeals to all sorts of people. They have performed from high schools to clubs and everywhere in between. They sum up their fan base as "eclectic."

Greenlaw Avenue plays Feb. 27 at Steamers Pub and Feb. 29 at the Beagle Pub.

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The Stars: Sex, death and robots

by Stefan Morales

PROVIDED PHOTO

Star light, star bright, the best band visiting tonight.

For some, reading break was about studying, working or . . . drinking. For me, it was about rediscovering the importance of the passing moments of my everyday life and the love humming softly behind each–humming, wide-eyed, at the beauty and lust in every one of The Stars' songs.

When I asked band member and producer Chris Seligman what the secret was, he told me that their second album *Heart* was wonderful because so much time and effort was spent perfecting it.

The results show in each lush track, from "Elevator Love Letter," with its driving guitars and bass underneath sweet and poignant vocals, to "Time Can Never Kill the True Heart," which builds to a perfect middle section that simply opens you up.

Recording in a town about an hour outside of Montreal, their new record–possibly due next fall–is shaping up to be much more organic than the last. *A Lot of Heart* was recorded over a long period of time.

Said Seligman, "This one, I think, is going to be much more spontaneous. We still talk about the love scene a lot, but I think there's a little more political stuff." In the background, one of the other band members jokingly piped up: "Tell him it's about sex, death and robots!" I was suddenly confident that it was going to be a hit.

The Stars aren't like any normal band–with their softly growling beats and airy vocals, they arouse deep ponderings on the excitement of romance in the life of lovers or lack-there-of-ers.

A friend once told me that the hardest thing in the world is having a meaningful relationship with someone else. There is also nothing better to do in the world.

For The Stars, having meaningful friendships with their Arts & Crafts labelmates Broken Social Scene and Metric has come easy since high school, pushing them to approach the music world as a strong collective: "(Arts & Crafts) was started to be a place where art and community can thrive. Music is weird, just like any other art, because it's a creative thing and a business thing too."

Kurt Vonnegut once wrote "Love is where you find it . . . I think it is foolish to go looking for it." The Stars have found it, and it's wonderful.

The Stars play at Logan's on Feb. 27 with Jets Overhead.

The artists formerly known as . . .

by Tyler Bate

The Special Guests are now calling themselves Jets Overhead.

The name change was done in May 2003 simply to avoid confusion. Apparently the band grew tired of the "Who's on first?" discussions every time they played a gig.

Posters advertising "The Special Guests" left many people wondering who the special guest would be. The band initially chose the name as a joke, but eventually felt that it was becoming a hindrance. Jets Overhead is a new name and a new start for a band that is getting ready to take off.

When they were known as The Special Guests (1999-2001) they had a record deal with Attic Records, Canada's largest independent record label. Unfortunately, Attic Records declared bankruptcy shortly after the band's debut full-length was released. In 2002, the band regrouped in Victoria and began writing new material. They decided to rename themselves Jets Overhead and debuted under this new name on May 21, 2003 at the Upstairs Cabaret in Victoria.

Their debut self-titled album as Jets Overhead is slightly more experimental than any of their previous work. Although the group is sticking with traditional rock instruments, they are trying to make a departure from the consistent and succinct pop songs of The Special Guests era. Jets Overhead infuses traditional rock with a more modern hypnotic style. Member Piers Henwood likens it to a "Sgt. Pepper's phase, except (we're) just not as good as the Beatles, and (we're) not taking acid."

Victoria should be proud. Jets Overhead is 100 per cent local. That is to say, all five members grew up in Victoria and still live here. Piers Henwood plays guitar and keyboard, with Adam Kittredge on vocals and guitar, Jocelyn Greenwood on bass and vocals, Brendan Pye on drums and vocals and, the newest addition to the group as well as the only female, Antonia Freybe-Smith on vocals.

The band was formed in 1998 as a fun hobby and has since become an internationally-known independent rock band. Last November the Jets were chosen as one of four bands to participate in the inaugural Reach 2003 tour of Ireland.

The selection process consisted of two rounds, with over 1,000 bands competing. Round one selection was based on each band's recording strength. The remaining 15 bands then entered round two, which evaluated their live performance ability. Jets Overhead "arranged a special, under-the-table show at Lucky Bar" for the Reach representative visiting from Dublin. Henwood says it was this live performance that "cinched the deal." Plus, it didn't hurt that the Jets took their Irish visitor out on the town afterwards and introduced him to some "cute Victoria women."

As exciting as it was for the Jets to be playing in a "place where there's lots of Guinness," they were equally elated at the opportunity to play in London, England. After a few gigs in London the Jets also did a show in Los Angeles.

However, Henwood says nowadays it's not necessary to be based in a huge city to find success. He thinks a lot of great bands are coming from smaller cities. So it looks like the Victoria-based band will continue to call Victoria home, even if they do spend most of their time on tour, travelling in a jet overhead.

Jets Overhead are opening for The Stars at Logan's on Feb. 27, 9 p.m.

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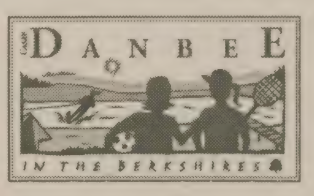

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If he builds it, you will surf

BY CHRISTINE VOPEL

PROVIDED PHOTO

Carl White, owner and operator of Barracuda Surfboards, catches what the kids call "a gnarly wave" on a trip to Costa Rica in 2000.

Meet Carl White. Five years ago he was surfing 16 hours every week. Then, in March of 1999, a 60 ton dump truck smashed into his pick-up. The crash snapped the ligaments around his collarbone and compressed his tailbone into the truck's metal bench seat. His head was smacked back into the rear windshield and then forward into the dash, giving him a concussion and severe whiplash.

Six months after the accident, just after his 28th birthday, he made his first surfboard, by hand, in his parents' garage.

"I created the board with the hope that by the time it was finished I would be ready to surf again," he said. "The board became a metaphor for rebuilding myself."

Meet the new Carl White. He builds surfboards.

As owner and operator of Tofino's Barracuda Surfboards, White is living the surf junkie's dream, totally immersed in the surf.

Built like a bear with a wide back and large arms, White is an imposing figure. But with his low chuckle and bare feet, he's more like the friendly Shrek then an angry grizzly.

White got hooked on surfing when he was five, at his parent's cabin on Georgian Bay in Owen Sound, Ontario. On stormy days, he would grab slabs of Styrofoam or plywood and head out to surf the four-foot waves that blew across the bay.

In 1992, White rented his first real board from a surf shop outside Tofino. "All that standing on bits of wood and Styrofoam paid off," he said. "I caught my first wave and rode it all the way in. From that time on I was hooked."

Just weeks later, White bought his own board, a seven-foot, six-inch hybrid, and named it the Blue Gnu.

From his first ride White was obsessed with surfboards. Trips to California were spent scouring surf shops for distinctive board shapes. He would tell his buddies to go ahead while he stayed behind examining the paint jobs, the dimensions and the curves of boards.

"Soon as I started surfing, I knew that someday I would create my own board," White said.

But it wasn't until after his accident that he was actually spurred. Trying to make something good out of the fact that he couldn't physically surf, White figured he had no excuse not to start a business.

That was easier said than done. The competition between surfboard manufacturers is fierce. A lot of work goes into board design and no one wants to give it away for free.

"Back then shaping boards was a mysterious trade," White said. "No one wanted to reveal the secrets of board building. Even today, it's the type of sport where you don't want to give yourself away."

But White struggled on, and it wasn't long after making his first board that others began clamouring for their own.

His friend Christy Harzan was an early convert. "I've got one with a Celtic design and I love it," she said. "There's almost a tribal theme to his work.

As more friends recognized White's skill, the demand for his boards grew and soon he had the start of a business. All he needed was a logo.

White has been obsessed with barracudas since an encounter on a diving trip when he was 13. He named his company after them because "they are fast, fierce and underrated."

Over the three years since it's founding, Barracuda has grown to the point where White now has a team of four helping him in the shop.

Still, Barracuda is less a retail outlet then a hidden niche, where most of the business is in special ordered, custom designed boards.

Inside the shop fibreglass boards are stacked in fish-like metal racks along the walls. Drills and sanders litter the counters and plywood floor, and the air is pungent with the chemical smell of resin.

"These are hybrid designs," said White, running his hand along a board with a skeletal design. "Their make varies depending on the surfer's level, their style, what waves they intend to surf," he says.

About 10 hours of work goes into each board White makes. Ninety-seven per cent of the board is made up of foam, with glass and resin acting as a glue to hold the parts together. A long flexible rod, called a stringer, is the board's backbone. Before construction the stringer is placed in a pre-cut foam outline of the board, called a blank.

On average, 100 Barracuda surfboards are made and sent out each year, but this year the number has risen to almost 150. "What can I say, surfing is hot," said White.

Much as he loves his business, White still enjoys nothing more than taking the day off and hitting the beach, but since the accident he has had to completely rebuild himself physically.

In the time it took his body to heal he lost most of his flexibility and strength and, only now, five years down the line, can White experience the level of surfing he could before the accident. But now that he's there, he has no regrets.

"Surfing is like the fountain of youth. I leave the water feeling better than ever before."

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Women's rugby suddenly hot

Nic Hume photo

A member of the Vikes women's rugby team tosses the ball out of trouble in a game against York University last Sunday at Wallace field. The Vikes won 29–19, their third straight game without a loss. A day earlier the Vikes hammered UBC 33–11, also at Wallace field.

Festivals from the land of the rising sun

by Bryna Hallam

Japan. Land of cherry blossoms and geishas. The country that gave us sake, sushi and sumo wrestling.

But the sports scene in the land of the rising sun isn't just about wrestling and baseball. This tiny island nation is home to an array of bizarre games, contests and rituals, many of which involve–strangely enough–drinking sake.

Hadaka Matsuri
Inazawa City

Every year, thousands of scantily dressed men flock to Inazawa city to ensure their good luck for the coming year by touching a naked man.

For over 2,500 years the Naked Man, or Shin-otokoa as he is locally know, has walked through a sweaty throng to reach the Kounomiya Shrine. Tradition says that the Naked Man absorbs all bad luck and evil deeds from the men who touch him.

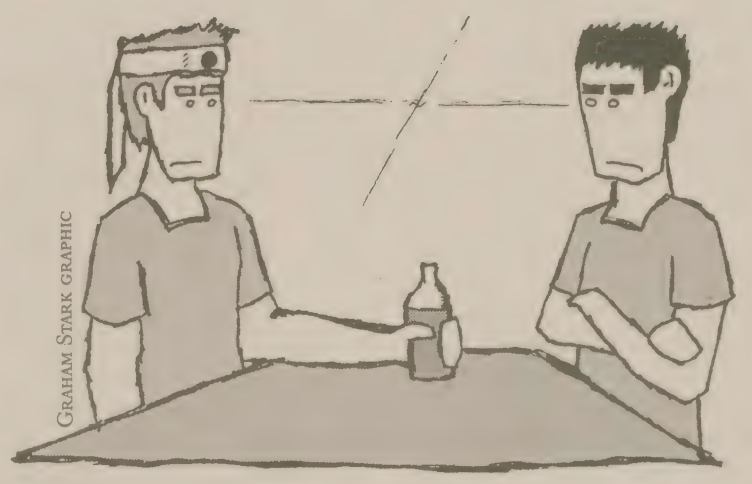
Before setting out through the crowd the Naked Man is purified by shaving all the hair from his body. Once on his journey the crowd lunges at any of his available body parts in order to rid themselves of bad luck. The crowd reaches such a fever that bodyguards must dump buckets of icy water to keep them under control.

The festival takes place on the third Saturday in February every year. Nine thousand men dressed in loincloths and sandals participate in the touching, while 300,000 spectators look on.

Nirameko Obisha Festival
Ichiwaka

Like a regular Friday night of drinking games anywhere, every year in January the residents of the town of Ichikawa come together to get drunk on sake and stare at each other. The annual Nirameko Obisha festival combines a staring contest with drinking, all to secure good fortune for the New Year. The contest starts with cups of rice wine being passed out to all contestants. Participants then stare at each other until one person looks away or laughs. All the while the crowd harasses the contestants with jokes, funny faces and silly dances.

Like all good drinking games, the loser has to down even more alcohol as punishment. In this case, it's a giant bowl of sake.



Graham Stark graphic

Not just a good time, the Niramekko Obisha is a ritual that dates back several hundred years. Many believe it began as an attempt to foretell the weather and predict the outcome of the coming harvest.

Yah Yah Matsuri
Ise City

If you're feeling angry at the world, and you like to be drunk, then the Yah-Yah Matsuri in Ise City is for you.

This "Quarrelling Festival" has competitors drink copious amounts of sake before screaming ancient Samurai chants and battle cries and making scary faces in an attempt to scare their enemies.

To finish up, they rip off all their clothes and jump into the icy ocean water, apparently to cool off their heated passions.

Sports briefs

Toronto good for something

Table Hockey players from as far away as Vancouver will travel to Toronto on Saturday, March 27 for the fifth annual Toronto Classic Table Hockey Championship.

The tournament is recognized as the largest of its kind in North America. This year, over one hundred participants are expected to arrive to fight for the prestigious title of Canadian Champion.

This year the event is rising to new heights as the tournament moves from the University of Toronto to the Steam Whistle Brewing Roundhouse at the base of the Skydome.

For more information go to www.torontotablehockey.com

–Christopher P. Deans (CUP)

Rowing team honoured

The University of Victoria honoured their national champion women's rowing team on Friday, Feb. 13 by raising a banner commemorating their victory in MacKinnon Gymnasium.

The team won their seventh consecutive Canadian University Rowing championship last Nov. 5 in Victoria.

Winning streak for men's rugby

The Vikes men's rugby team won twice over the last two weekends, improving their season record to an even six and six.

On Saturday, Feb. 14 the Vikes eked out a 23–19 victory over the Britannia Lions. Second year fullback Brian Sommer had two tries in the victory, while national team scrum-half Ed Fairhurst added eight points by way of two penalty kicks and a conversion.

One week later at UVic's Wallace field the Vikes relied on the speedy wheels of winger Tyler Wish to pace them to a 19–10 win over Bayside. Wish, a member of the National sevens team, had two tries in the win. Fifth-year lock Brent Pinkerton added a try and Fairhurst kicked two conversions to help the Vikes move to sixth place in the B.C. Premier league.

The next Vikes game is this Saturday, Feb. 28 at 3 p.m. at Wallace field.

Something in the water south of the border

Nine Vikes runners set personal best times at the Husky Open Invitational Indoor Meet on Feb. 14 and 15 in Seattle Washington.

In the women's 1,000 metre alone, five Vikes set personal bests: Andrea Depol, Nancy Fedoruk, Leah Burley, Heather Burley and Karen Fedoruk placed second, third, fourth, seventh and ninth, respectively.

In the men's 600 metre, fourth-year runner Josh Henderson ran a personal best time of 1:20.81 to capture second place. Craig Babiuk placed fourth in the same race.

Other impressive finishes included Heather Goodfellow and Liz Ramage, placing second and fourth in the women's 3,000 metre, and Scott Kennedy and Glenn Saqui coming second and fourth in the men's 1,000 metre.

Wendy Hurdle and Jacob Burgess also ran personal best races at the meet.

–Richard Warnica

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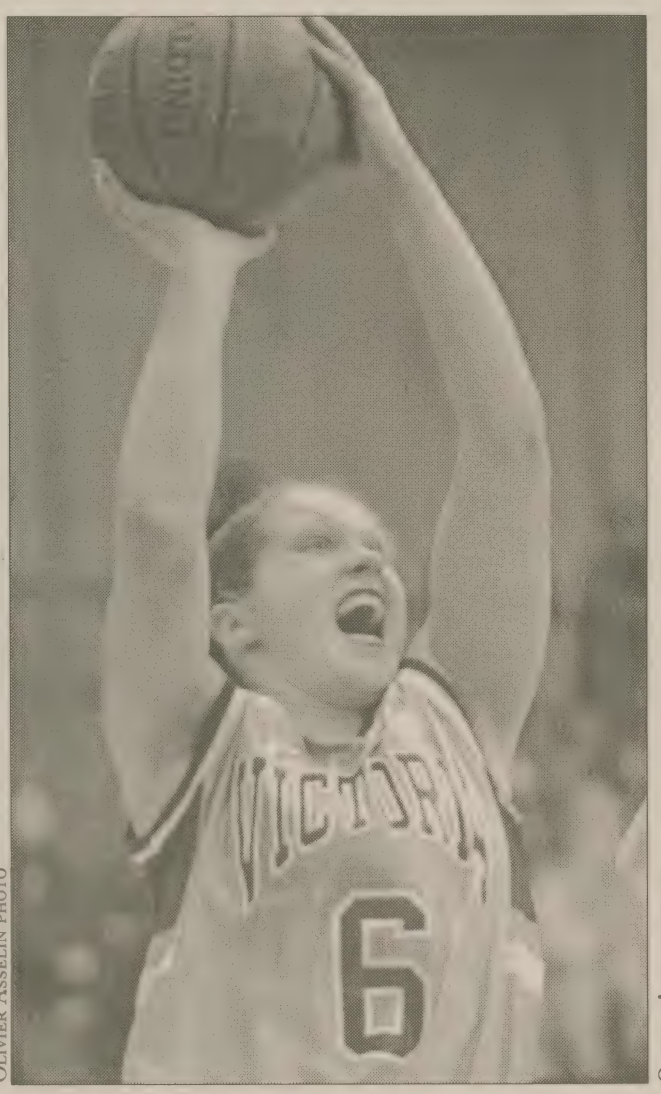
Nic Hume photo

UVic 73, SFU 64

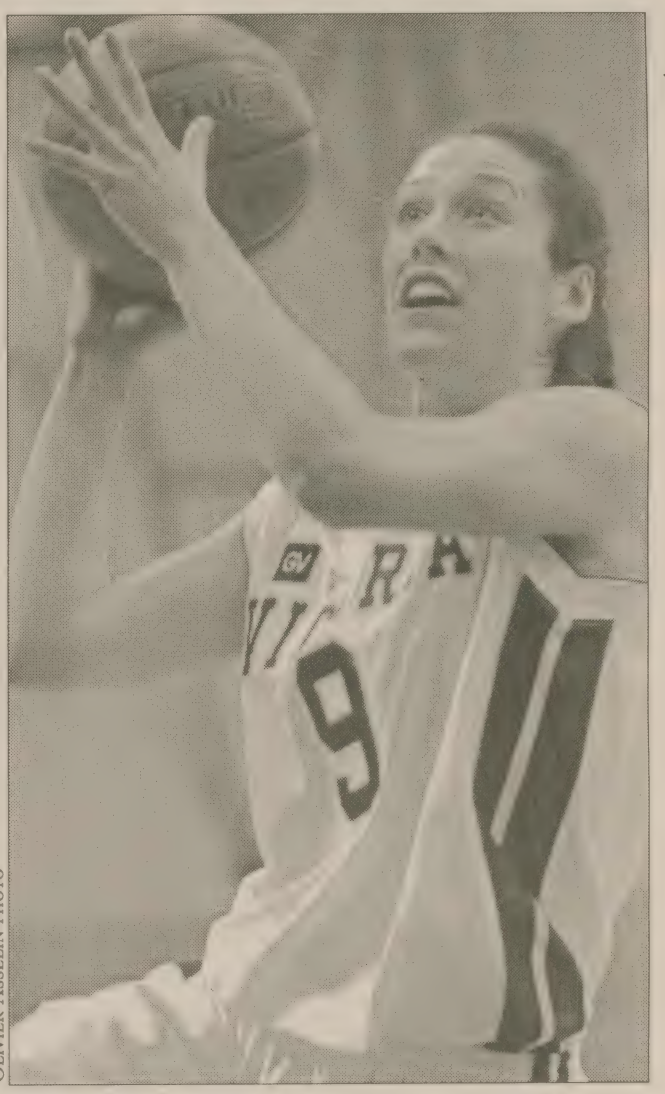
The Vikes Dani Everett, left, fakes out SFU's Julia Wilson on Friday, Feb. 20.



Olivier Asselin photo

SFU 76, UVic 59

Dani Everett puts up a shot against SFU on Saturday, Feb. 21.



Olivier Asselin photo

SFU 67, UVic 62

The Vikes Krystal O'Byrne shoots for two against SFU on Sunday, Feb. 22.

Heartbreak as Vikes fall short in semi-final

by Nic Hume

The Vikes Women's basketball team, currently the reigning national champions, ended a long-standing tradition Sunday when they failed to win a berth in the Canadian Interuniversity Sports National Championships after losing in the quarter-final against the Simon Fraser University Clan.

Sunday's game was the last of an extremely close three-game series. The Vikes opened on Friday with a clean 73–64 before the Clan came back to win the second game on Saturday 76 to 59.

On Sunday the Vikes jumped to a 34–32 lead at half time and led 44–36 with 13 minutes left on the clock before the Clan came back in the final minutes to win 67–62.

The Vikes entered the series ranked fourth in the country, three spots ahead of the seventh ranked Clan.

"They just had a little bit more down the stretch," said Vikes head coach Brian Cheng. "We did a good job and held them scoreless for a while. We just couldn't finish it off."

The game featured heroic efforts from guards Jody Potts and Dani Everitt in the closing minutes. Potts scored a pair of free throws inside the last minute and Everitt sank a two-pointer with only 20 seconds left. Even so, the Vikes failed to pull through in the final crucial minutes of the match.

"It was a war right down to the end, right down to the wire," said Cheng.

Forward Krystal O'Byrne led the Vikes with 13 points while Jody Potts pulled down 10 rebounds.

With emotions riding high, the Vikes' disappointment was difficult to hide. After taking a few moments to compose herself, a tearful Dani Everitt confronted local media after the game.

"Right now it seems like the worst thing in the world, but I mean, you realize that it's an experience, and there's a lot worse things in life than losing a basketball game."

The missed chance to compete for the national title this year was of particular significance to Everitt and O'Byrne. The two women finished their UVic basketball careers Sunday, though both were confident they would not be leaving basketball behind entirely.

"I'm hoping to get into teaching and some coaching. Hopefully I'll be back somehow," Everitt said after the game.

O'Byrne will be heading for a career in medicine, though she too promised that she would not abandon her career on the court. "I'll still play alumni. Those girls better not relax too much, I'll be back," she said.

Men's season ends on high note

by Richard Warnica

The Vikes men's basketball season came to an early end on Friday, Feb. 15 despite a huge 91–65 victory over the Winnipeg Wesmen.

The team was eliminated from playoff contention the night before when the Trinity Western Spartans beat the Simon Fraser Clan 85–77 to clinch the final Canada West playoff berth.

For the Vikes to qualify ahead of TWU, they would have had to win both weekend games, which they did, and have TWU lose both of theirs. It looked good on Friday the 13 when the Vikes toppled the Manitoba Bisons 74–69 and the Spartans lost to SFU 81–70. But when TWU beat the Spartans the next night, the Vikes game on Sunday became a mere formality.

That didn't stop UVic from putting on a huge performance against Winnipeg.

In his final game as a Vike, guard Regan Daly hit four three-point shots as part of his 14 point display. Forward Nathan Ashmead led the team with 15 points and five rebounds in the victory.

The Vikes finished the season with an 11–9 record, an improvement over last year's 8–12 record.

Of the Vikes entire 15 man roster, only Daly is ineligible to return next season.

With four starters and the entire bench coming back for another year, expectations will be high for the team to finally get over the playoff hump.

write sports

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On campus

UVic Garry Oak Restoration Project needs your help! This Sunday, volunteers are needed to help spread multch around seedlings and retag wooden markers. Wear gloves and bring shovels and buckets if you've got them.
When: Sunday, Feb. 29, from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Where: Trailhead at the corner of Cedar Hill X Rd and Gordon Head Rd.
For more information, call 721-7355.

Performance art show at UVic visual arts department on Feb. 26 and 27, 2004. It is a free event featuring over 10 artists, independent performances. The opening reception will take place on Feb. 26 from 6:30 – 10 p.m. Performances will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m. Cheap drinks, music and snacks will be available. Performance continues Feb. 27 from 12 – 5 in the main gallery of the visual arts department, featuring performance artist John Boehme. All are invited to attend this event.

People, Poverty & God: a Christian discussion group which explores the connection between faith and social issues. Every Monday at the interfaith chaplaincy (beside the bookstore) at 2:30 p.m. Come and discuss. For more info contact April: aprilg@uvic.ca.

PRAISE & WORSHIP AND ADORATION Tuesday, March 9. Sponsored by the Catholic Students Association. Starts 7 p.m. at the Interfaith Chapel, UVic (near parking lot 6). All welcome!

UVic Circle K Volunteers Club. Want to be part of the World's largest university/college service organization?! Circle K is all about service, leadership, fellowship and having lots of FUN!!! Circle K is a great place to meet new people, work with children, students, adults and seniors, and a totally awesome organization to be part of! Circle K meets every Wed. in CLE A 301 at 301 at 6 p.m. So please come join us or contact Nellam Sandhu at neelams@uvic.ca for more information.

Make yourself useful! Help your student ambassadors with their annual Campus Clean-up on March 6 @ 10 a.m. You won't believe some of the stuff we find . . .

Interested in gaining RESEARCH EXPERIENCE? Applied student research training projects that focus on child and adolescent health and well-being are now available. Projects are submitted by community agencies. Students complete research projects for experience, course credit and a $200 stipend. Please contact Leah Wilson at cormrc@uvic.ca or 721-7843.
www.youth.society.uvic.ca

Tatshenshini to Skagway Ski Traverse: From the Tatshenshini River across northwest B.C. to coastal Alaska – A slide presentation by Craig Hollinger. Hosted by the Vancouver Island Section of the Alpine Club of Canada, Thursday Feb. 26 at 7:30 p.m., UVic Elliot Lecture Wing. Theatre 168. Tickets: $7 at the door.

Off campus

Erotic Poetry and Music Night at Second Story Books. Friday, Feb. 27, 2004, 7 p.m., minimum donation $6. Door prizes!

MONASTIC RETREAT DAY with the Poor Clare Sisters, Duncan B.C., Saturday March 6. Space is limited to 20 students: reserve your place by calling at 380-2795.

The 10th Annual Victoria Rhythm & Blues Festival takes place on Feb. 27/28, at the Central Bar and Grill. Presented by Harbour Towers Hotel and Suites and 100.3 the Q!, all proceeds will benefit the NEED Crisis & information Line and Youth Line. This year's festival line up features David Gogo and includes Elmore's Bar and Grill, Summers and the Sinners, Slim & the Dusters, Soul Station, Auntie Kate, Deb Rhymer Band, Out of the Blue, 3 Chord Monty, Bill Johnson Band, and the Vic High Blues Band. Tickets are on sale at Lyle's Place, A&B Sound (jazz dept.), and Central Bar and Grill. For more information contact NEED administration line at 386-6328.

COMMUNITY POTLUCK – Sunday March 7, 5 p.m., Holy Cross Parish (4049 Gordon Head Road) Bring a dish to share and meet other Catholic students from UVic and Camosun.

Victoria Writer's Society – First Wednesday of every month, 7:15 p.m., in the New Horizons Centre at 234 Menzies St. in James Bay. Open to the public. We offer information, support, and exposure to emerging and established writers, and we now offer a discounted student membership rate of $15 for college students. Our speaker on March 3 will be Stephen Eaton Hume, UVic professor and children's author. For more information, visit victoriawriters.com.

RON ROLHEISER LECTURE AND WORKSHOP: Friday March 12 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Aiden's United Church: "Where is Now? Naming the Present Moment." Next day, Fr. Ron will present a day-long workshop at Holy Cross Parish, an exploration of growth and discipleship entitled "Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life." Special student rate: Friday lecture $5, Saturday workshop $15, weekend ticket $18. Tickets available at the Interfaith Chaplaincy, Campus Services Building. All students, staff and faculty welcome.

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Interviewer will be on campus Monday March 1 – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Student Union Building (SUB) – Michèle Pujol Room.

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Announcements

The Victoria Shakespeare Society will be holding auditions for the summer festival's performances of *As You Like It* directed by Libby Mason and *Love's Labour's* Lost directed by Chris Moss March 20 and 21. Auditions by appointment only 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Contact Denise at 995-5958 or e-mail theatrepeople@hotmail.com to book an audition. All auditions will be held in room A169 MacLaurin Building, UVic. Bring résumé and headshot and prepare one song (bring sheet music) and two contrasting Shakespeare monologues. If interested in backstage/crew positions, please specify when booking appointment.

The Senate Committee on the University Budget's 2003 Report and Summary of the Student Survey on barriers to Completion, as approved at the Jan. 9, 2004 Senate meeting, are available for viewing at the office of the University Secretary's website –
web.uvic.ca/univsec/

Activist Video Night – "Underground: 1975" the story of the Weathermen Underground who violently opposed the U.S. goverment in the 60s & 70s. As opposed to the recent movie "Weathermen Underground" this 1975 flim interviews their revolutionary student leaders while they were still being hunted by the F.B.I. 7:00 p.m., Friday, March 5th, Camosun College (Lansdowne) Fisher Building Theatre, room 100 FREE, info – 595-3991.

Volunteers

Only the top 12 applicants will be accepted to provide support and information as volunteers on our sexual assault team. Training starts Feb. 24. Contact Tracey at the Women's Sexual Assault Centre 383-5545 or volunteers@vwsac.com.

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In a world gone crazy, you return my sanity to me. Many thanks to you WB, and keep it coming.

Can you tell me…Tell me how to get… How to get to Sesame street…Tell me fucker!

Luanne, I'm sorry about the stain on your Mom's love seat. I have club soda.

D.B. just know that A.T. loves you, even though I know you slept with B.G. and A.T. screwed E.T., L.W. says you, D.B., are meant tobe with A.T., so please sexy dump J.T.

Q-Tips make my ears bleed.

Daffodil season again, do you remember?

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by Russell Ross
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To stop the war on terror!
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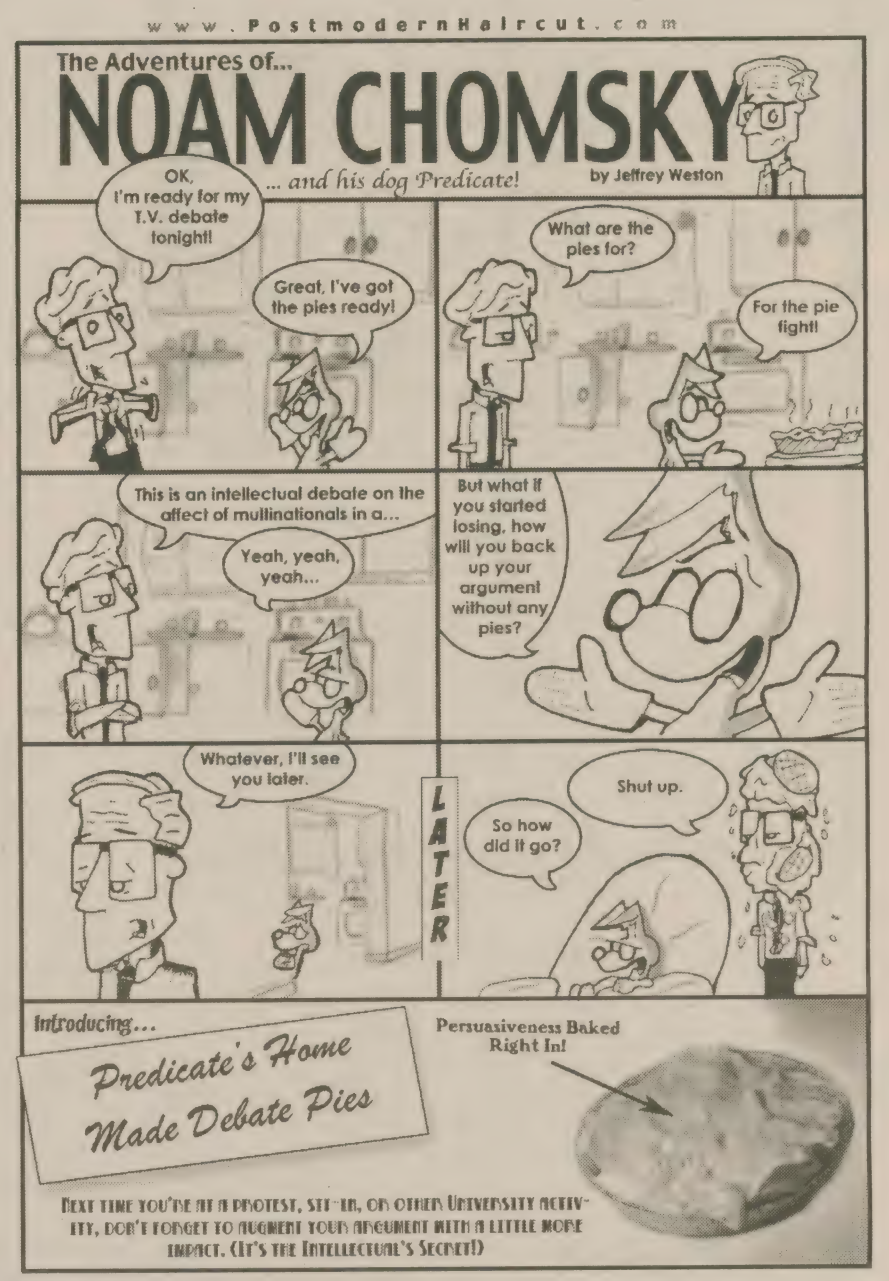
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But what if you started losing, how will you back up your argument without any pies?
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LATER
So how did it go?
Shut up.
Introducing...
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NEXT TIME YOU'RE AT A PROTEST, STR**ER, OR OTHER UNIVERSITY ACTIVITY, DON'T FORGET TO AUGMENT YOUR ARGUMENT WITH A LITTLE MORE IMPACT. (IT'S THE INTELLECTUAL'S SECRET!)

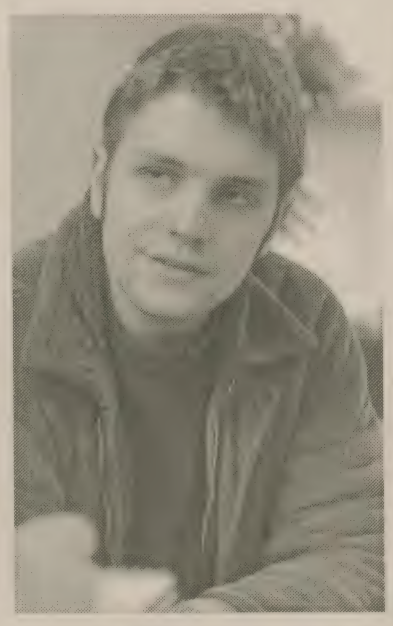
on the spot

Today's Question: **Are you supporting David Turpin in the UVSS Board of Directors elections? He's running for Chair as an independent.**

PROCRASTINATED BY GRAHAM STARK
PHOTOS BY NIC HUME

Jacquelyn Parker

JP: I haven't heard anything about him. He's running as an independant?
GS: um…yeah.

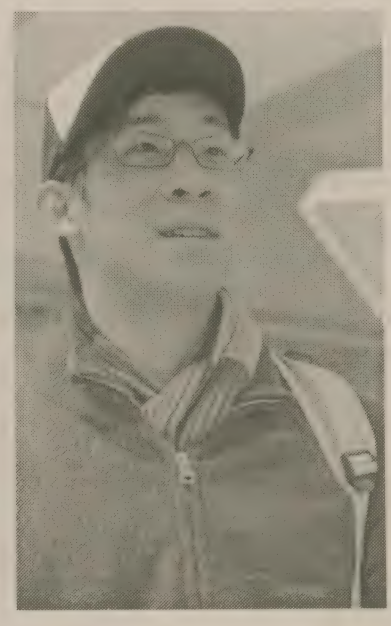


Liam Haggarty

LH: Am I supporting him? I haven't even thought about it. Um, yes. That's my inital inclination. I don't really follow student government.
GS: Well, he's actually the president of UVic.
LH: Yeah, I know.
GS: Huh?
LH: Why, what did you say?
GS: If you are supporting him in the UVSS elections…
LH: Oh! I didn't hear that part.
GS: Damn, I totally thought I had you!
LH: Sorry.

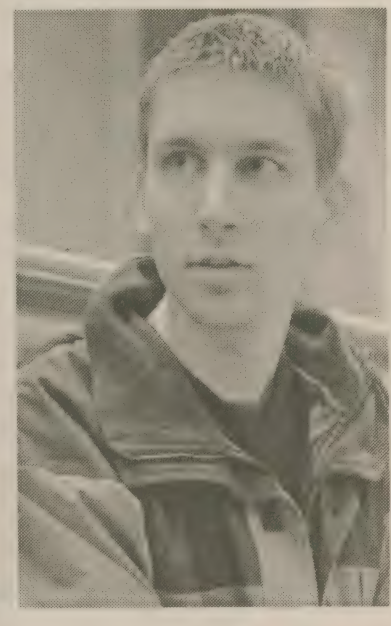
Jen Hill

JH: You know what? I have no idea about the elections. How embarassing is that?
GS: Not as embarassing as it could have been, trust me.



David Liem

DL: What happens if you don't know?
GS: David Turpin. He's running as an independant candidate.
DL: Well, if I know who he is, then he's done a good job. But since an average student like me doesn't know him, he isn't. He must not be very active in the community.
GS: Fair enough.
DL: Why should we care about the student government anyway? I mean, what the hell do they do? What have they done for us? Have they published something with everything they've done? No.



Jordan Rhodes

JR: Is he the old guy who…um, was he the one with the scandal?
GS: Which now?
JR: Is he the guy who stole all the money from the SUB?
GS: Ah. No. Not as such.

Once again, the Martlet *feels it necessary to point out that David Turpin is, in fact, the President of UVic. He is not running in the UVSS elections, nor anything else people may have said.*

SAM & FUZZY
©2004 BY SAM LOGAN.
YOU KNOW, MIMES WERE TOTALLY THE ORIGINAL GOTHS.
HOW SO?
THINK ABOUT IT! THEY HAVE PALE SKIN, BLACK CLOTHES AND MAKE-UP, AND THEY ARE WELL ACQUAINTED WITH DEATH.
HEY, YEAH, I GUESS SO!
WAIT... "WELL ACQUAINTED WITH DEATH"?
BOOM!
I HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THAT.
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That's the dumbest thing I've ever heard.
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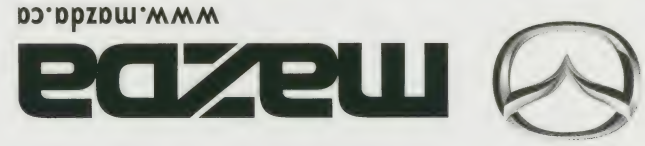

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2004 UVSS 2004

·ELECTION PLATFORMS·

for BOARD OF DIRECTORS

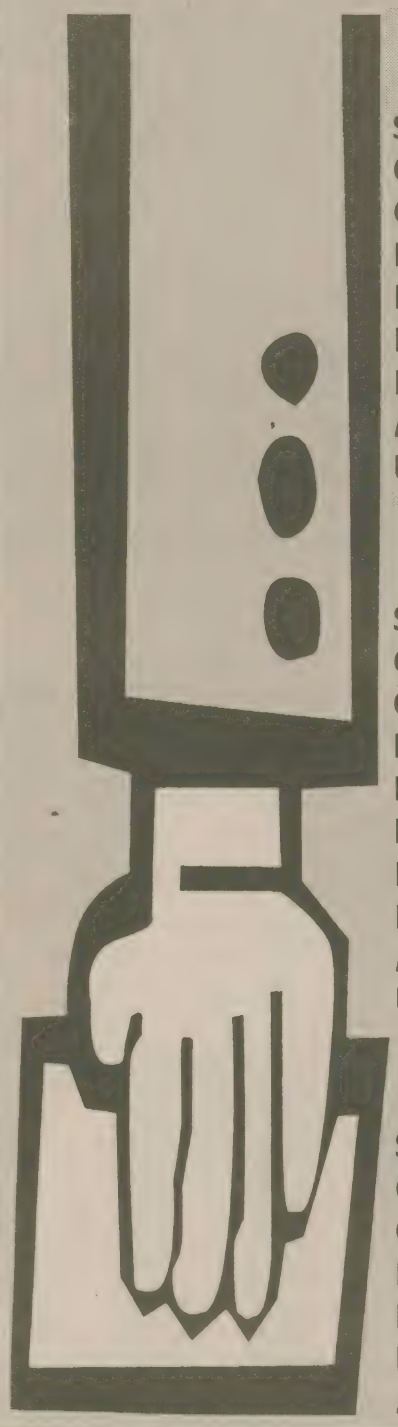
(Executive and Directors at Large)

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

and SENATE

PLATFORMS

POLLING STATIONS MARCH 3·4·5



WEDNESDAY MARCH 3

SUB	9:00 - 4:00
Clearihue	9:00- 8:00
Cornett	4:00 - 8:00
David Strong	11:00- 3:00
Eng. Lab Wing	11:00- 3:00
Fine Arts	11:00 - 3:00
Library	9:00- 4:00
McKinnon	11:00- 3:00
University Centre	11:00 - 3:00

THURSDAY MARCH 4

SUB	9:00- 8:00
Clearihue	9:00- 4:00
Commons	5:00 -7:00
Elliot	11:00 - 3:00
Eng Lab Wing	11:00 - 3:00
Fraser	11:00 - 3:00
Human & Soc Dev	11:00 - 3:00
Library	9:00- 8:00
MacLaurin	11:00 - 3:00
University Centre	9:00- 12:00

FRIDAY MARCH 5

SUB	9:00- 4:00
Clearihue	9:00- 4:00
Cornett	9:00- 12:00
David Strong Blg	11:00 - 3:00
Elliot	11:00 - 3:00
Library	9:00- 4:00
MacLaurin	11:00 - 3:00

ALL CANDIDATES FORUM

Candidates for the board of directors will be outlining their platforms and answering any questions you might have.

Wednesday, February 25 12:00-2:30 @ Cinecenta

Monday, March 1 12:00-2:30 @ Cinecenta

you've seen their posters

now hear them speak!

• ELECTION PLATFORMS • EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

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you've seen their posters

now see the candidates

hear them speak! Ask YOUR Questions!

CHAIRPERSON

Joanna Groves

The BC Liberal government has shown that students and post-secondary education are not their priorities. Rather than investing in education, Gordon Campbell increased tuition fees and cut university funding to pay for tax cuts benefiting the wealthiest British Columbians. **Enough is Enough!**

On February 4th, students across BC mobilized for increased university funding and reduced tuition fees. But one day is not enough; students must continue to build public pressure. A provincial election will be held next year and the UVSS should ensure that post secondary education is a key campaign issue.

Over the last year, I have worked hard to balance the Students' Society's books and ensure the financial viability of UVSS operations. We need a Board of Directors who will **put students first** by acting responsibly with students' society funds while maintaining high service levels for students.

I am running for Chairperson because I am committed to the fight for reduced tuition fees and increased government funding and to maintaining a students' society that provides the services you need.

As Director of Finance last year, I:

- ✔ Helped **organise** the February 4th Day of Action,
- ✔ **Led** the Students' Society to its most successful financial year yet,
- ✔ **Worked** to improve the health and dental plans and the opt-out process for next year,
- ✔ **Coordinated** the Emergency Student Food Bank.

As Chairperson I will:

- ✔ **Increase pressure** on the provincial government to reduce tuition fees,
- ✔ **Work** to make post-secondary education an election issue,
- ✔ Be an **articulate** spokesperson for the Students' Society,
- ✔ **Liaise** regularly with UVic Administration,
- ✔ **Fight** for an affordable U-Pass and increased transit service levels.

Over the next year, I want to continue voicing the issues that matter most to you.

Vote Joanna Groves for Chairperson

Putting Students First!

CHAIRPERSON

Dallas Henault

This is your UVic. University is supposed to be the most exciting time in our lives, and **Students for Change** wants to build on that. We want to take the politics out of student life and help people remember the reason why we are all here: to meet new friends, learn about the world around us, and graduate with a degree. And we are supposed to do this all on our own without having people shove their views on how we should live our lives down our throat. As your Chairperson, I will:

- Take a pro-active approach with tuition fee increases by creating new jobs in our SUB and creating new bursaries;
- Make sure the SUB is there for students, not for private political agendas;
- Have businesses in the SUB that are economically efficient and are providing feasible food choices for students;
- End patronage hiring and require all staff to fulfill the qualifications of their job descriptions;
- Increase funding for the Women's Centre, Sexual Assault Centre and Pride Centre & SSD so that these services are always there to meet the needs of students who demand them most;
- Demand that UVic expands in an environmentally friendly manner to preserve our unique environment;
- Launch a committee to look at the possibility of electoral reform for the UVSS;
- Address the democratic deficit by giving individual Directors at Large more power, and appoint them as Deputies to the Executive Directors;

This election gives us an opportunity to change the way our SUB is run, and to make sure that you are properly represented. On March 3, 4 & 5, vote for a team that will put your issues at the front of the debate, not our own.

Vote for Dallas Henault & Students for Change.

ALL CANDIDATES FORUMS

Wed, February 25
12:00-2:30
@ Cinecenta

Mon, March 1
12:00-2:30
@ Cinecenta

Bring your student ID

FINANCE

Agata Lis

As students, we spend the majority of our days on campus. Seeing as this is our home for at least four years, it is important to provide students with resources which make our home comfortable. The key hub for student life is the Student Union Building. It may suit our minimal needs, yet it's neither a bastion of comfort nor economic efficiency. As your Director of Finance I will:

- ✔ **Commit** to improving the quality of comfortable studying space in the SUB
- ✔ **Find new ways** to provide students with a better variety of affordable food options
- ✔ **Create** a committee to examine the possibilities of utilizing our Vertigo space to generate revenue
- ✔ **Collaborate** with students and management on the improvement of Felicita's
- ✔ **Eliminate patronage hiring** that has taken place over the last few years. All staff hired by the UVSS will be required to fulfill the qualifications of their job descriptions
- ✔ **Increase funding** to vital groups, such as the Women's Centre, the Sexual Assault Centre, and the Pride Centre, which provide great help to those facing challenges in our university
- ✔ **Expand** our widely used Food Bank service
- ✔ **Ensure** Directors at Large have a greater voice in the way that student government is run. They will be offered posts as Deputies to the Executive to function as an extra ear for staff and students' concerns and to assist in the duties of members of the Executive.

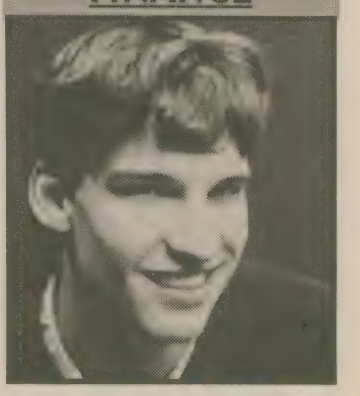
I am also committed to dealing with student concerns on rising tuition. I will:

- ✔ Explore proactive ways to dealing with our tuition increases such as increasing bursaries.
- ✔ Provide more job opportunities for students in the SUB

Finally, **Students for Change** committed to hearing the voices of **all students** across faculties.

BE HEARD! VOTE AGATA LIS FOR FINANCE!

FINANCE



Jamie Strachan

The Students' Society has faced many challenges in the past few years including corrupt managers, crippling deficits, and the biggest attack on students by any government in BC history. We have remained strong throughout by making our financial health a top priority while still recognising the importance of student services, progressive, sustainable policies, and never giving up the fight for accessible education.

I am running for Director of Finance because I want to keep the Students' Society on the track to financial recovery, and also to ensure that the Students' Society continues to **put students first** by working on the campaign for accessible education.

My previous experience includes:

- ✔ **Volunteering** and helping to **organize** for the Feb 4 Day of Action,
- ✔ **Owning and Operating** a small landscaping company,
- ✔ **Running** my high school store and acting as treasurer for high school music council.

As Director of Finance I will:

- ✔ **Make** student jobs in the SUB a priority,
- ✔ **Secure** another surplus, without cutting services for students,
- ✔ **Ensure** SUB businesses run efficiently and remain affordable for students,
- ✔ **Support** progressive and environmental SUB policies.

And I will continue to fight for accessible education by lobbying for:

- ✔ **Reduced tuition fees** so that everyone can afford an education,
- ✔ **Increased government funding** to maintain and improve the quality of our education,
- ✔ **More needs-based grants** to prevent high student debt levels.

I am committed to working for you, ensuring that your student fees are well spent, and that your representatives never back down on the issues that affect students the most.

Elect Jamie Strachan for Director of Finance

Putting Students First!

VOTE

• ELECTION PLATFORMS • EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

ACADEMICS

Hari Alluri

In the past couple of years, tuition fees at UVic have risen by at least 69% and are expected to rise again next year. At the same time, the BC government refuses to increase funding to meet inflation, and is actually cutting UVic's funding for next year by millions of dollars. **This has to stop!**

As a seasoned activist, I know that if you want to effect change, you must employ a broad range of tactics from big rallies to petition drives, from direct lobbying to public awareness campaigns. We need a students' society who will **put students first**, and use all these tactics and more to make accessible education a government priority.

My experience includes:

- ✔ **Being active** with the **Students of Colour Collective,** including serving as the **Board of Directors representative,**
- ✔ **Producing** the **Students of Colour Collective** magazine **Pulse,**
- ✔ **Serving** as the **University Transfer Representative** at Langara College.

As Director of Academics, I will:

- ✔ **Fight** for reduced tuition fees and a fully-funded education system,
- ✔ **Promote inclusiveness and equality** on campus and **organize** anti-oppression campaigns,
- ✔ **Represent** the broadest student perspective possible by working with course unions, and professional development unions on campus,
- ✔ **Work** with the Ombudsperson to increase drop-in hours and student outreach,
- ✔ **Continue** the Armed With Understanding lecture series, and bring in speakers on a variety of topics and student interests.

Students on campus face worsening academic conditions. If elected, I will lobby for:

- ✔ **Smaller** class sizes,
- ✔ **Shorter** wait lists,
- ✔ **Increased** funding for lab equipment and library acquisitions.

If we don't fight for accessible education, no one is going to do it for us. We need a strong and committed student's society to lead the campaign for change.

Elect Hari Alluri for Director of Academics

Putting Students First!

VOTE

ACADEMICS

Alexis Norton

We are all fortunate to live in a free and democratic society, where everyone is equally able to express their opinions, their desires and their beliefs.

Students for Change are here to make sure that these fundamental ideals are upheld and that students of the University of Victoria will no longer feel isolated from their student's society.

If elected Director of Academics, I will move quickly to make sure that all students have the opportunity to create a SUB that we can all be proud of.

Together with **Students for Change**, I would like to start by opening the SUB to new opportunities, creating a SUB where students will feel comfortable coming to work, to study or just to relax.

Of course, we would like to see greater student involvement in our Society. We will begin by making sure that Directors at Large have a more powerful voice in the way the UVSS is run. They will be offered posts as Deputies to the Executive, mainly to be a better, and more accommodating ear for staff and students' concerns.

Each department and each student within those departments should have a say in what affects their courses. That is why I would like to see the presidents of every active undergrad course union becoming full and active directors of the UVSS.

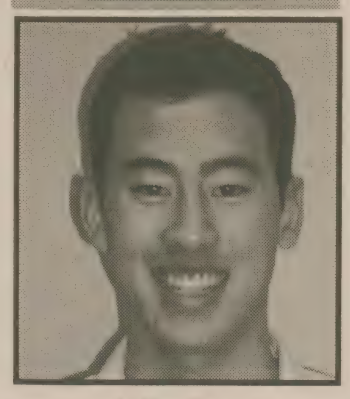
Other organizations, such as the Women's Center, the Sexual Assault Center, and the Pride Center provide great assistance outside the classrooms and lecture halls. It is important that we increase funding to these vital support groups, and working with them, find ways of bringing their services to more students.

On March 3rd, 4th and 5th **Vote Alexis Norton** for Director of Academics with the **Students for Change** slate to make this future a reality.

IT'S YOUR DEMOCRATIC RIGHT TO VOTE!

USE IT!

SERVICES



Mike Tan

Here at UVic, we share one of the most beautiful campuses in Canada with thousands of talented students, faculty, musicians, athletes, artists, actors, and future leaders. We have so much to learn and gain from each other in terms of new friendships, education, entertainment, and unforgettable memories.

As Director of Services, my main goal is to bring this campus closer together and build a stronger sense of community. Many students I have spoken to have often talked about the apathy felt on campus. I believe that **change** towards a more unified campus begins with the **improvement of communication** about the events and issues on campus. Whether they are the free concerts and plays held by the Faculty of Fine Arts or the political and financial issues concerning UVic, students can only care about matters they know about!

As your Director of Services, I will:

- ✔ Promote the creation and awareness of new clubs around the entire campus.
- ✔ Along with external approaches, find **pro-active** ways to handle tuition fee increases within UVic itself.
- ✔ Organize more **successful** and **affordable** beer gardens, concerts, charities and other special events.
- ✔ Increase support for the food bank and on-campus resource centres with fundraisers and help of the local community.
- ✔ Find more **sponsorship** for under funded teams, clubs, and course unions - leaving more money for scholarships and bursaries.
- ✔ Build **strategic relationships** with the local business community to create new job opportunities for students.
- ✔ **Increase involvement** of UVic students, directors-at-large, course unions, clubs, teams, and faculty in all activities of the UVSS.
- ✔ Ensure that services and events provided by the UVSS are **affordable** and **accessible** to all students.

This is your campus, and your chance to make a difference...

On March 3-5th, Vote Mike Tan and Students for Change!

SERVICES

Mary Thibodeau

Education at UVic is in jeopardy. Reckless tax cuts implemented by Gordon Campbell and his Liberals are causing tuition fees to skyrocket and funding to the University is set to be cut by millions of dollars next year! These attacks on education threaten the integrity of our experience at UVic. **We must act now to save our education!**

Heading into the third year of unprecedented tuition hikes, I believe that it is imperative for students at UVic to have a strong students' society who will **put students first**. We must continue to pressure the provincial government to increase post-secondary education funding and we must ensure that education is a key issue in the upcoming provincial election.

My experience includes:

- ✔ **Participating** in the UVSS Political Action Committee
- ✔ **Organizing** the February 4 National Day of Action
- ✔ **Engagement** in broader community issues

As Director of Services I will:

- ✔ **Ensure** that clubs are well resourced
- ✔ **Work** to bring more concerts to UVic
- ✔ **Cultivate** a vibrant, and diverse campus culture
- ✔ **Maintain** relevant and affordable student services

In continuing the fight for accessible education I will work to:

- ✔ **Reduce** tuition fees
- ✔ **Increase** provincial funding to improve upon quality and capacity issues
- ✔ **Raise** the public profile of post-secondary education issues

Additionally, I am concerned about and want to continue doing work on the expected two-year cut off on welfare and increasing awareness of oppression facing women and traditionally marginalize groups.

Over the next year I hope to work towards improving the quality of your experience at UVic both academically and socially, so that students at UVic are able to get the best education possible. The challenges are significant, and I believe I am up to the task.

Elect Mary Thibodeau as Director of Services

Putting Students First!

DON'T FORGET YOUR STUDENT ID!!!

ALL CANDIDATES FORUM

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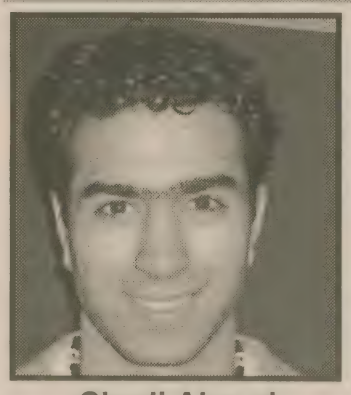
Monday, March 1 12:00-2:30 @ Cinecenta

you've seen their posters

now see the candidates

hear them speak! Ask YOUR Questions!

• ELECTION PLATFORMS • DIRECTORS AT LARGE



Chadi Akouri

As I see it, the University of Victoria Students' Society Board of Directors is a collection of elected students who ensure that the student population at UVic has a voice. It is the Board's duty to **put students first** by ensuring that all students are represented. The importance of student representation is something that I strongly believe in and it would be my honor to fulfill that role within the UVSS.

I am working towards a degree in Child and Youth-Care and have been active in our students' society since my first day on campus.

Over the past year I have:

- ✔ **Participated** in the UVSS Political Action Committee,
- ✔ **Helped organize** the February 4 National Day of Action as Volunteer Coordinator.

As a student representative I will:

- ✔ **Ensure** that all students have a voice in the direction of the Student Society ,
- ✔ **Work** to improve student participation in the Student Society,
- ✔ **Continue** fighting for accessible education.

At a time when accessible high quality public post-secondary education is under unprecedented attack, its more important than ever that students have a strong voice. A strong, well-organized students' society is that voice and I believe I can help make our students' society stronger.

Elect Chadi Akouri as Director at Large

Putting Students First!

Penny Beames

Students have the power to affect real change on campus and in the community. The role of the students' society is to be an avenue for students to effect that change. The students' society should **put students first** by encouraging all students to get involved in fighting for the issues they care about.

I am a second year English and Professional Writing student, and I am running for Director at Large because I want to fire students up about the issues that effect them most.

My previous experience includes:

- ✔ **Organizing** Take Back the Night in Barrie, Ontario,
- ✔ **Founding** an alternative cheerleading squad at the University of Windsor,
- ✔ **Participating** as an active member of the Women's Studies Outreach Committee.

As Director at Large I will:

- ✔ **Organize** an outreach campaign to encourage students to become active on campus and in the students' society,
- ✔ **Always be available** to listen to students' concerns and ideas,
- ✔ **Continue the fight** for accessible education.

February 4th was just the starting point. I want to work with students to maintain pressure on the government until we see real change.

Elect Penny Beames as Director at Large

Putting Students First!

Branden Beatty

Things are happening all over the world and we are a part of it. Here in BC, post secondary education is in crisis and accessibility is in jeopardy. The provincial government's policies threaten the integrity of UVic campus and academic life.

Students are a diverse group, yet despite our differences we have common goals. Your students' society will **put students first** through fighting for high quality education including knowledgeable professors, smaller class sizes and the promise of a future. We want to be inspired to learn. We want our rights met and our diversity celebrated.

In order to achieve these goals we need strong representation on campus. I believe that I can provide that representation.

As Director at Large I will:

- ✔ **Support** accessibility to post secondary education by fighting for lower tuition,
- ✔ **Promote** diversity ,
- ✔ **Continue working** towards environmental responsibility and sustainability,
- ✔ **Maintain and expand** student services,
- ✔ **Fight** for the rights of all students.

My experience working with UVic Pride and the UVSS Board of Directors has shown me the strength that our diversity can create. I look forward to building on that strength.

Elect Branden Beatty as Director at Large

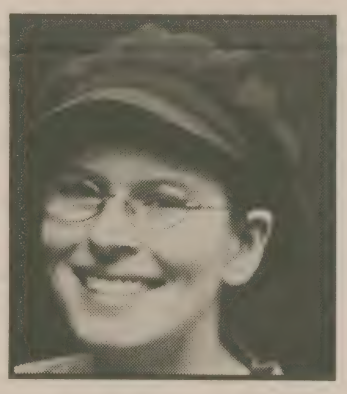
Putting Students First!

VOTE

Adam Carver

As a Director at Large on the UVSS I would like to increase the feeling of community and fellowship among the student body. I feel one way to bring our campus closer would be through the organization of more on campus social events which appeal to the entire school. Some events I would like to see and work on include: outdoor concerts (similar to Arts County Fair, on campus mass games (like capture the flag), and increased fan participation and support at all athletic events. In addition, I feel improving the communication between UVSS and the student body is key to the success of these events. I believe that UVic has the potential to be one of the greatest campuses in Canada.

On March 3-5, Vote for **Adam Carver** and **Students for Change!**



Ky Clarkson

My name is Ky Clarkson and I want to be on the board of directors of a students' society that **puts students first** by advocating an education system that is accessible to each and every eligible student. In addition, a students' society should help foster an effective dialogue between students, professors and university and ensure that education about the political system is part of the university experience.

Over the past year I have,

- ✔ **Participated** in the UVSS Political Action Committee,
- ✔ **Helped** to organize the February 4 National Day of Action,
- ✔ **Served** as a lead marshal at the day of action.

As a Director at Large I will,

- ✔ **Help** students get informed on broader issues via alternative media sources,
- ✔ **Continue** the fight for accessible post-secondary education,
- ✔ **Work** to foster constructive dialogue between all members of the University community.

Your students' society's most important job is to ensure they represent you. As a director at large, I will make sure your voice is heard and will encourage each of you to participate in UVSS campaigns and activities. Being engaged is the best way to create change.

Elect Ky Clarkson as Director at Large

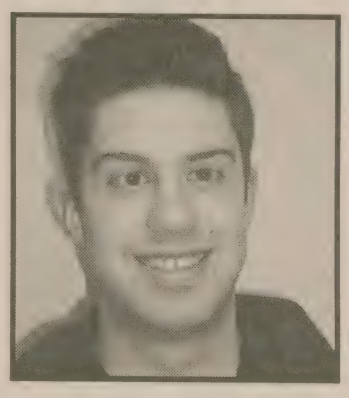
Putting Students First!

Neal Evans

It seems that every year we elect a Board of Directors that puts its own political agenda ahead of the needs and desires of students. It's time for you to help change the board by electing an independent mind that will bring new ideas to the UVSS. When we elect a group of people who's idea of a good time is going out for a protest, their priorities drift away from providing good services, good food, good entertainment in the SUB, and other things that would interest the majority of students.

As Chancellor of the **Coke Club**, I helped turn it into the biggest and most exciting club ever in the history of UVic. I spent a year on the University Senate, and I have also served as Vice-President of the History Undergraduate Society while it became one of the richest and most active Course Unions at UVic. I guarantee that I will turn next year into the most **action packed** year ever at UVic.

On Election Day vote for **Neal Evans**, and allow me to provide the resources to turn UVic into an exciting environment, and to end that political partisanship that drags down the UVSS.



Tom Grainger

Imagine more bands at Vertigo, Canucks parties, 93¢ pizza at the SUB, and an atmosphere on campus that focuses more on having fun. Along with **Students for Change**, we can create a more open UVSS where all students have a say.

Year after year the same slate is elected with promises of doing everything they can to ease the financial burden on students, and year after year they have failed. It's time for a fresh start.

We need to expand job opportunities for students in the SUB by being fiscally responsible and utilizing empty space like Vertigo. Food services in the SUB need to be more affordable for students. Cheaper beer? This does *not* mean privatizing the SUB. Instead, it means finding new revenue streams and developing a plan that keeps all students' interests in mind. Better management of the UVSS and the SUB makes it all possible.

Protecting services like the Women's Centre and Society for Students with a Disability is our first priority, while putting other UVSS expenditures to referendum so that all students have a say in how their money is spent.

Are you ready for a fresh start? I sure am. **Elect Students for Change...vote Grainger!**

ALL CANDIDATES FORUM

Candidates for the board of directors will be outlining their platforms and answering any questions you might have.

Wednesday, February 25 12:00-2:30 @ Cinecenta

Monday, March 1 12:00-2:30 @ Cinecenta

you've seen their posters now hear them speak!

DON'T FORGET STUDENT ID

• ELECTION PLATFORMS • DIRECTORS AT LARGE

April Griffin

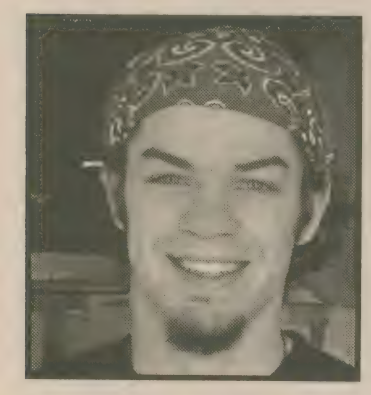
I am a third year sociology student who in the past three years has held organizational roles within various campus clubs and course unions and has also been an active volunteer and educator around issues of poverty.

My main issues of concern which I intend to advocate as a Director at Large include **communication** and **community**.

UVic has a diversity of students and faculties who each bring a unique perspective and knowledge to this community. I intend to improve **communication** by implementing *new input processes* in which all students can voice what issues are important to them, and how the UVSS can advocate and create dialogue on these issues. Ways to do this include surveys, forums, and on-line discussion spaces.

I consider the *increase of tuition fees as an unnecessary measure* and I believe we should continue to oppose tuition hikes, however I also think a greater emphasis is needed on *maintaining the quality of education* in our University. Students are paying for their education and the UVSS should engage in dialogue with the administration to ensure that students are being listened to.

By engaging the university **community** in new and necessary ways, new ideas can be shared and a better understanding will be gained about the needs and concerns of UVic Students.



Erik Haensel

What do skyrocketing tuition fees, the Working Forest Legislation, $2.4 Billion in tax-cuts, and the 2 year welfare cutoff all have in common? They were all instituted by the BC Liberal Government.

What do the recent 15% tuition fee reductions in Newfoundland, the end of the Vietnam War, the American Civil Rights Movement, and the protection of UVic's Cunningham Woods all have in common? They were all underpinned by grassroots organizing and student activism.

I am a third-year History student with a background in social justice work including environmental advocacy. Currently I am Director of Academics for the University of Victoria Students' Society (UVSS), and Chairperson of the UVSS Environmental Responsibility Committee. My activism at UVic has included:

- ✔ co-founding Students' Against War
- ✔ organizing a panel discussion on Post-Secondary Education
- ✔ facilitating a forum on Racism, and Privilege
- ✔ convincing the UVSS Board to switch to 100% post-Consumer Paper
- ✔ and exclusively 100% Fair Trade Coffee.

I have valuable experience as the President of the CFUV Radio Society, a member of the UVSP Board of Directors, the Senate Committee on Appeals, Re-Registration and Transfer, the Campus Development Committee, and many other groups.

Vote Erik Haensel

Putting Students First!

Jonny Morris

International students are vital to the diversity of our campus, and with massive tuition fee increases (international fees are set at three times domestic fees), many bright students from abroad are being shut out alongside many Canadians. Whether you're from Canada or not, getting an education should **not** depend on the size of your **wallet!**

I am a fourth year Child and Youth Care student from England, and I am running for Director at Large because I want to see an inclusive Students' Society that is committed to **putting students first!**

My experience includes:

- ✔ Four years as a **resident advisor**,
- ✔ **Crisis counsellor** for seven years,
- ✔ **Women's Transition House** counsellor,
- ✔ Member of the **Committee for Sexual and Gender Diversity**.

As a Director at Large, I will:

- ✔ **Work** to **reduce tuition fees** for both domestic and international students,
- ✔ **Improve** awareness of the student health and dental plans,
- ✔ **Initiate** an awareness campaign on student mental health.

My experiences at UVic have been invaluable, and I look forward to working to ensure that UVic continues to be an open door of post-secondary education for both international and domestic students.

Elect Jonny Morris

Putting Students First!

K.H. "Renée" O'Leary

K.H. "Renée" O'Leary, International Student from California, Humanities Diploma Program for Director at Large.

I will endeavor to make the best use of our funding and building resources. I will work to provide full accountability for the fees the UVSS spends. I will actively solicit student opinion and input for the UVSS.

I will advocate for tuition reduction and additional bursaries. I will keep an eye out for the Food Bank.

I promise to give over 200 volunteer hours to my duties.

My qualifications: 16 years business employment; Quality Assurance (ISO 9001) Lead Internal Auditor; Social Director; Race and Gender Training Specialist; Union Organizer. 14 years volunteer leadership, American Magic Umbanda House; Health Care Activist.

I am proud of my ability to facilitate diverse people to work together. I ask for your vote. Give me the opportunity to volunteer many hours for our mutual welfare.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Shamus Reid

It is a trying time for students in BC. Tuition fees are rising dramatically and government funding is being cut. In order to fight back against these regressive government policies, we need a strong and progressive board of directors that **puts students first**.

I am a first year Political Science student, and am running for Director at Large because I believe that the Students' Society should continue to be an active voice for accessible education.

My previous experience includes:

- ✔ **Participating** actively on my high school student council,
- ✔ **Working** on projects and campaigns with environmental and peace clubs,
- ✔ **Volunteering** and helping to **organize** for the Feb 4 Day of Action.

As a Director at Large I will:

- ✔ **Continue to fight** for reduced tuition fees and increased government funding,
- ✔ **Maintain** strong links with other progressive groups on campus,
- ✔ **Make** equity and diversity on campus a priority,
- ✔ **Work** to bring quality entertainment to the UVic campus.

I am committed to an accessible, affordable, and quality education for all students and look forward to working towards this goal over the coming year.

Elect Shamus Reid as Director at Large

Putting Students First!

Mycroft Schwartz

I am Mycroft Schwartz, a Political Science and Economics student running for Director at Large. I enjoy my UVic experience but I believe we are at the point where some changes need to be made. Rather then spending our time and money fighting tuition we should be working at ways to improve student services and life on campus. I want to see the SUB running more efficiently providing students with affordably priced competitive food and other services as well as creating more jobs for students. I am very interested in hearing student ideas for creating positive changes such as what do with Vertigo. I will also advocate for a better allocation of student funds to create new bursaries. Opting out of the health and dental plans for those who are already covered needs to be more efficient. Election reform is necessary – in this information age online voting would help UVic's lagging voter turnout. **Students for Change** is committed to listening to the ideas of students and bringing positive changes to our school – UVic is what we choose make it. May the Schwartz be with you!

Sara Taheri

Today, in our own Students' Society, many students feel they are ignored or bullied by the current student administration.

Together with **Students for Change**, I intend to change that.

If elected a Director at Large, I will move quickly to make sure that students get their voices heard on demand.

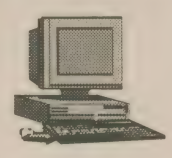
We need to focus now on increasing funding to vital support groups, such as the Women's Centre, the Sexual Assault Centre, and the Pride Centre, which do so much for those facing challenges in our university. We need to work with them to find ways of bringing in more revenue for them, so they can continue to provide their valuable services in the future.

I will make sure that Directors at Large have a greater voice in the way that student government is run, and that students feel they are finally being listened to.

Additionally, I would like to create new bursaries and job in the SUB. This is a proactive approach in dealing with tuition hikes, instead of a reactive one. After all, when did anybody change your mind by screaming at you?

For positive, rewarding change, vote **Sara Taheri** on March 3, 4 & 5.

ATTENTION ALL STUDENTS



ELECTIONS TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Mandated under the University Act

Vote online at: http://webvote.uvic.ca.

To cast your vote you will need your student number and PIN number (used for web registration). The web-voting system will be the sole method for voting for this election, paper ballots will not be available.

Elections start at 9:00 a.m. PST on March 3rd and close at 4:00 p.m. PST on March 5th, 2004.

• ELECTION PLATFORMS • DIRECTORS AT LARGE

Justine Townsend

As a 3rd year Environmental Studies and Geography student I have the necessary background and personal motivation to work on the serious greening of the Uvic campus.

My interests and passion lie in environmental advocacy and social justice; I would like to see both of these movements strengthened on campus. Through my diverse volunteer and work experience with a variety of environmental groups, I have the ability to initiate and work on environmental reform on campus, the promotion of equity and fairness, and expansion of the inclusivity of the university experience to ALL students.

As a Director at Large I would work on making tangible changes in the university community by:

- ✔ decreasing the amount of waste generated in the SUB by improving and expanding recycling and looking into composting
- ✔ increasing vegan and bioregional food options in the SUB
- ✔ campaigning to change the SUB's paper purchasing policy: switching over to 100% recycled or tree-free paper.
- ✔ enhancing environmental awareness on campus through a free, environmental lecture series.
- ✔ promoting artistic and creative events
- ✔ increasing equity on campus through direct support of the UVSS constituency groups
- ✔ supporting environmental initiatives on campus

Elect Justine Townsend
Putting Students First!

Bhupinder Vinning

Many UVic students feel that their Students' society does not represent them and they are not being heard. **Students for Change** intends to change this.

- If elected Director at Large, I will ensure that students get the proper representation in student government they seek.
- I would like to ensure that the SUB is economically efficient and is a place where students feel welcome.

Far too many Directors at Large have resigned over the years. This must change.

- We will begin by making sure that Directors at Large have a greater voice in the operation of student government.
- They will be offered posts as Deputies to the Executive, be an extra ear for staff and students' concerns and assist in the duties of members of the Executive.

Additionally, **Students for Change** would like to create new bursaries to help students deal with tuition hikes. This is a proactive approach in dealing with tuition hikes. After all, when did anybody change your mind by screaming at you?

It's time for change. It's time to elect **Students for Change**, a student government who is progressive not regressive!

ELECT BHUPINDER VINNING,
DIRECTOR AT LARGE

ALL CANDIDATES FORUM

Candidates for the board of directors will be outlining their platforms and answering any questions you might have.

Wednesday, February 25
12:00–2:30
@ Cinecenta

Monday, March 1
12:00–2:30
@ Cinecenta

you've seen their posters now hear them speak!

POLLING STATIONS MARCH 3•4•5

WEDNESDAY MARCH 3	
SUB	9:00 - 4:00
Clearihue	9:00- 8:00
Cornett	4:00 - 8:00
David Strong	11:00- 3:00
Eng. Lab Wing	11:00- 3:00
Fine Arts	11:00 - 3:00
Library	9:00- 4:00
McKinnon	11:00- 3:00
University Centre	11:00 - 3:00

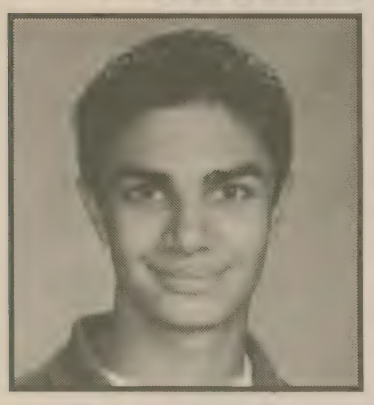
THURSDAY MARCH 4	
SUB	9:00- 8:00
Clearihue	9:00- 4:00
Commons	5:00 -7:00
Elliot	11:00 - 3:00
Eng Lab Wing	11:00 - 3:00
Fraser	11:00 - 3:00
Human & Soc Dev	11:00 - 3:00
Library	9:00- 8:00
MacLaurin	11:00 - 3:00
University Centre	9:00-12:00

FRIDAY MARCH 5	
SUB	9:00- 4:00
Clearihue	9:00- 4:00
Cornett	9:00- 12:00
David Strong Blg	11:00 - 3:00
Elliot	11:00 - 3:00
Library	9:00- 4:00
MacLaurin	11:00 - 3:00

• ELECTION PLATFORMS • SENATE

Senate is one of the two major governing bodies of the University. It is concerned with academic governance matters. It determines enrollment and admissions, approves new programs, grants degrees, makes rules for the management of the Library, recommends awards and scholarships to the Board and so on. It meets on the first Friday of every month from October to May at 3:30 p.m. In addition, it has a number of committees on which all senators serve. Student senators should serve on at least one Senate committee. There are 16 student senators.

Platforms for Students Acclaimed to the Senate for 2004-2005



Tariq Ahmed
(Faculty of Engineering)

Tariq Ahmed will be starting his fourth year of academic studies in electrical engineering this summer. Tariq is scheduled to be on a co-op work term from September to December of 2004. Originally from Maple Ridge, BC, Tariq has been heavily involved in the UVic Engineering Students' Society (ESS) since starting at UVic in September 2000. He was a chair of the 2001 ESS Frosh Committee and editor of the ESS newsletter *Tubes & Wires*. He has also served on the ESS executive as the Director of Services and as President. Tariq also sat on the executive of the Canadian Federation of Engineering Students Congress 2004. Tariq has a clear history of working to provide services and representation for students and hopes to continue doing so as a student representative to the Senate.

Questions on Tariq's candidacy can be directed by e-mail to tahmed@uvic.ca.

Chad Akouri
(Faculty of Human and Social Development)

The Senate is a forum where university policy and direction is decided. As such I am interested in representing students in the Senate, and as a student representative I will clearly articulate and respectfully express the UVic student body interests.

I am working towards a degree in the field of Child and Youth Care, and from the first day I entered UVic I became active in the Students' Society. I was the UVSS Volunteer Coordinator for the February 4th Day of Action. As well, I sit on the Political Action Committee. I am hard working, enthusiastic and take my commitments seriously.

As a student representative on Senate I will:

- Make sure that student input and concerns are reflected in the decision-making policies of the university
- Work towards an academic direction that benefits all students
- Maintain academic and institutional integrity by addressing the negative effects of government under-funding.

I believe that an accessible post-secondary system is crucial in a knowledge-based economy and I will commit to fighting for this vision in the Senate. I hope that I can gain your support in my quest to earn a position in the Senate.

Cheryl Clark
(Faculty of Law)

The University of Victoria has seen changes over the past year that has had a direct impact on students. Issues such as soaring tuition costs and longer waitlists are the reality that we are facing.

I am a first year law student with the experience it takes to be open to the issues of the student body. You deserve an effective representative who will recognize the changes which are necessary to address your concerns and to ensure that they are acted on.

I strongly believe that focus on procedure is crucial. Programs must:

- Be fair and equitable
- Include student consultation
- Protect quality education

My experience in student government includes the executive of Native American Students Associate at the University of Lethbridge 1998/2000. I bring three years of work experience as a Director of Administration with Abegweit First Nation.

As a student representative on the Senate my job would be to:

- Ensure your issues are effectively raised throughout the year
- Improve access to post secondary education
- Promote effective diversity programs within the university

It's your opinion that counts, not mine. I am committed to working hard and ensuring that your voice is heard.

Jude Coates
(Faculty of Social Sciences)

Having effective student representation on Senate is critical for the equitable administration of our educational goals at UVic. As the highest decision-making body for the university, Senate plays an important role in the life of students and has the ability to drastically affect our educational expectations.

If re-elected to senate I will:

- Ensure that the experiences and concerns of students are addressed and will contribute to shaping decisions on campus
- Articulate relevant student issues and raise new issues in a respectful manner and work towards solutions
- Continue to advocate for lower tuition fees and quality programs

I am in the Social Sciences department, pursuing a degree in Political Science, History and Indigenous Studies. As well, I have the experience necessary to be effective on Senate:

- Senate student rep 2002-2004
- Chairperson, UVic Students' Society 2003-2004
- Successfully brought forth the academic amnesty motion for the Feb 4th Student Day of Action

I have a strong belief in the value of co-operative academic governance, and believe I will be an asset to this process. I look forward to the possibility of continuing to serve students in the capacity of Senator.

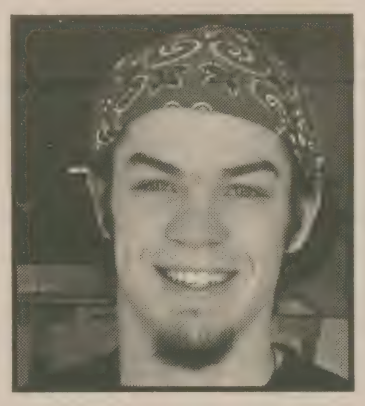
Oliver Gerrard
(Faculty of Social Sciences)

My name is Oliver Gerrard and I am a first year Social Science major running for a position in the University Senate. The senate is designed to accommodate the student, and I therefore believe in articulate and motivated representation. To that end, my main focus as a senator would be the fulfillment of interests particular to students within my faculty, year, and residence.

I hope to be able to increase student awareness of the proceedings of the University governance. Today's politics are increasingly characterized by apathy among voters (especially young ones); senate responsibility - which is so reliant on involvement and expression – should therefore be approached in a proactive manner. I am committed to providing this effective student voice.

Further, I believe in constructive thought, idea development, and hard work as a means of dealing with the challenges within the university bureaucracy and as a way of establishing progressive alternatives to the status quo.

Recently, I have volunteered for the Student Society and have taken part in the B.C. UMP. I look forward to representing student interests as senator this year as well as in my subsequent years on campus. For more information I can be reached at oliverg@uvic.ca.



Erik Haensel
(Faculty of Humanities)

I am a third-year History, and Political Science Student with a background in social justice work including environmental advocacy. Currently I am Director of Academics for the University of Victoria Students' Society (UVSS), and Chairperson of the UVSS Environmental Responsibility Committee. My activism at the University of Victoria has included:

- co-founding Students' Against War
- organizing a panel discussion on Post-Secondary Education
- facilitating a forum on Racism, and Privilege

I have an excellent understanding of how senate works. I have been to most Senate meetings this year as an observer, and have crafted two separate motions which were then moved by student senators and passed by the senate.

I have valuable experience as the President of the CFUV Radio Society, a member of the UVSP Board of Directors, the Senate Committee on Appeals, Re-Registration and Transfer, the Campus Development Committee, and many other working groups on campus. Additionally I have written reports on Equity and Fairness at our University, and also submitted a review on the CDC planning process.

Becky Harris
(Faculty of Education)

Honest, hardworking, reliable, responsible, trust worthy, great listening skills, and the ability to look at things from multiple perspectives and consider people's opinions before making a decision is just part of who I am. Elect me for a position as Student Rep for the Faculty of Education or as a Member-at-large.

I am Beck Harris, 4th year student at UVic in the 5-year Elementary Education program.

I have always been active in my school and community. From holding various executive positions to recently shaving my head as part of the Cops for Cancer Campaign. I am willing to stand up for my peers and myself. I am very familiar with how the University works, as I am currently a Student, a Class Rep, on the Education Student Society's Executive, working for Campus Security, and in the past as a Resident Advisor for two years. Being involved in a variety of ways has given me a broad sense of experiences and knowledge to draw on, and has allowed me to understand how the University operates at several different levels. Above all, I want to work at helping you to be satisfied with how the University is working for you.

A vote for me equals a chance for your voice to be heard, and to make people's experiences at UVic positive, rewarding and memorable.

ALL CANDIDATES FORUM

Wednesday, February 25 12:00-2:30 @ Cinecenta

Monday, March 1 12:00-2:30 @ Cinecenta

• ELECTION PLATFORMS • SENATE

Micah Rankin
(Faculty of Law)

Education is a fundamental right that is rapidly being eroded by the government's cuts to post-secondary education. Students find themselves in a hostile university environment, bound by high debts and forced to pay tuition that is increasing at an alarming rate.

I believe that the fundamental task of a Senate Representative is to prevent the erosion of our right to education and to work towards guaranteeing a high quality, accessible and affordable university education.

If you elect me to Senate, I will be a voice that defends these values.

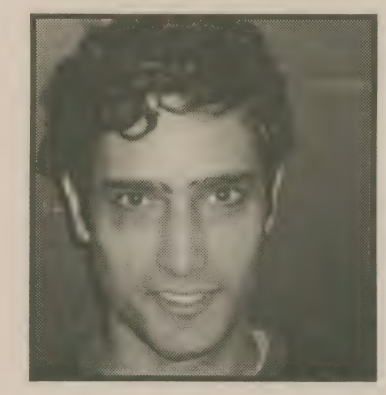
As a law student I bring experience:

- as a community activist and organizer with Vancouver's *COPE* party
- as a Student Society representative at the *Institute for Political Studies*
- as well as an understanding of the legal framework that underlies university policy.

As a Senate Representative, I will:

- **Ensure** that your money is used effectively and responsibly
- **Encourage** accessible education and student services
- **Represent** student interests when meeting with faculty
- **Promote** an open and inclusive academic program
- **Challenge** those policies that threaten students' interests

When you cast your ballot, vote for MICAH RANKIN for Senate!



Nasir Rather
(Faculty of Engineering)

Student representation in the Senate, gives us an opportunity to voice our opinions and critique policies concerning issues that affect our lives. The UVic Senate makes decisions that have a very significant impact on the students, I am committed to consistently and effectively participating in the decision making process. I believe effective representation is necessary to help us advance in the direction that leads us to our educational goals.

Students on the UVic Senate should attempt to represent the diverse student body of the University of Victoria. I am a senior computer sciences student who also works for UVic as a researcher and have been an active member of several groups and movements within the UVic community. I continue to work with the Students of Colour Collective to provide an anti-racist voice and safe space for marginalized students, and I often volunteer for the UVSS.

I believe I am a good candidate for the Senate and would enjoy using my skills and resources to address issues that are important to us, as students. I would like to propagate ideas and practices of respect and opportunities for all.

I look forward to the opportunity of participating in this positive learning experience.

Mary Thibodeau
(Faculty of Social Sciences)

As a UVic second year Political Science/Sociology student, I strongly believe in the importance of effective and involved student representation. Senate makes many decisions that impact on the experience of students at UVic. I believe that students need a strong voice at the table when decisions that affect their lives are being made.

I have been involved with student activism on campus for the past year. My experiences with the UVSS have taught me a lot about the role that representation plays in ensuring that the best interests of students are represented. I am concerned with the issues that impact on students and want to play a role in ensuring that students have a voice on these issues.

If elected I will,

- Advocate for safe, fair and diverse learning environments
- Work to ensure curriculum reflects the diversity of students at UVic
- Work to reduce paper wastage on campus
- Work to increase course offerings
- Endeavor to decrease important course cancellations

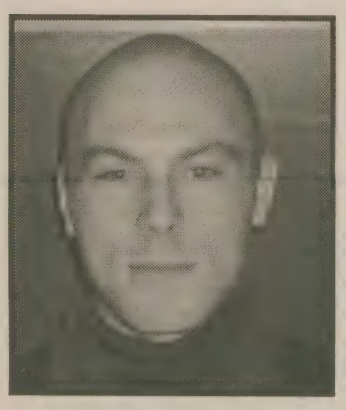
If you would like to see a strong voice committed to representing you on Senate then I hope you will consider voting for me on March 3, 4 and 5.

BRING STUDENT ID!

Bhupinder Vinning
(Faculty of Social Sciences)

Hi, I am currently a fourth year student pursuing a major in Economics and a minor in Sociology. I am trilingual in English, French and Punjabi. I want to discuss with students how we can effectively deal with increasing tuition fees. I want to ensure that the University of Victoria maintains a high standard for education and academic integrity. I want to bring fresh new ideas to the Senate that will reflect the ideas of all students and ensure that the quality of education that students receive is of the highest caliber. I hope to be a voice for all students and ensure that their voices are heard and represented in the Senate.

Vote Bhupinder Vinning



Brad Wowryk
(Faculty of Social Sciences)

I'm a second year social sciences student wanting to get involved as a student senator. I have been a student representative before, as the director of photography for the student newspaper at Langara College in Vancouver. I enjoyed the opportunity to answer questions from other students, be creative, and be involved with a group providing a service to students. I hope to be able to do the same as a member of senate. I have also worked for a non-profit group before, as a canvasser for Greenpeace, so I bring with me experience dealing with difficult but important issues.

If elected I will work to,

- Improve the registration process at UVic
- Increase flexibility of courses to meet student needs
- Increase accessibility to a diverse range of courses
- Improve sustainable practices at UVic

I'm positive that there are students out there with ideas on changes they would like to see implemented, whether it be small issues like allowing waitlists for lab sections or larger issues such as working for a sustainable campus, and I want to be a voice for you! So when elections come around on March 3,4 and 5 please vote for me, Brad Wowryk!

Joanna Groves
Part-Time Student Senator to Senate
(Faculty of Humanities)

I have been representing students at UVic for three years as both a director at large and as an executive on the UVic Students' Society's Board of Directors. I am confident that I can use this experience to effectively represent students on Senate, and to ensure that your concerns are heard and taken seriously by the university.

As a student representative, I am committed to:

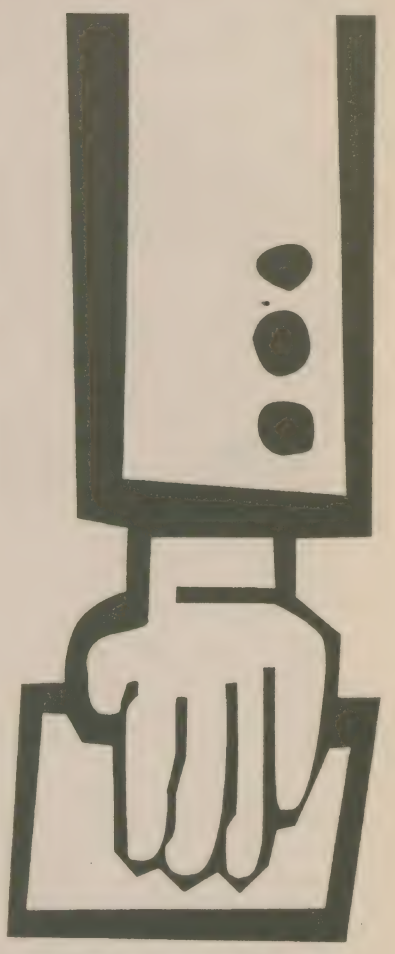
- A quality, affordable post-secondary education for every qualified student;
- Sustainable development and environmental initiatives on campus;
- Diversity in our curriculum, faculty, and student body; and
- Fair and accessible student appeal processes.

If elected I will:

- Raise issues that are of concern and importance to UVic students;
- Support policies that enhance students' life on campus and quality of education; and
- Attend and participate fully in all meetings.

UVic should be leading the country environmentally, politically, and educationally. I am committed to bringing a strong, progressive voice to the UVic Senate.

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO VOTE USE IT!



POLLING STATIONS

WEDNESDAY MARCH 3

SUB	9:00 – 4:00
Clearihue	9:00 – 8:00
Cornett	4:00 – 8:00
David Strong	11:00 – 3:00
Eng. Lab Wing	11:00 – 3:00
Fine Arts	11:00 – 3:00
Library	9:00 – 4:00
McKinnon	11:00 – 3:00
Uni Centre	11:00 – 3:00

THURSDAY MARCH 4

SUB	9:00 – 8:00
Clearihue	9:00 – 4:00
Commons	5:00 – 7:00
Elliot	11:00 – 3:00
Eng Lab Wing	11:00 – 3:00
Fraser	11:00 – 3:00
Human & Soc Dev	11:00 – 3:00
Library	9:00 – 8:00
MacLaurin	11:00 – 3:00
Uni Centre	9:00 – 12:00

FRIDAY MARCH 5

SUB	9:00 – 4:00
Clearihue	9:00 – 4:00
Cornett	9:00 – 12:00
David Strong Blg	11:00 – 3:00
Elliot	11:00 – 3:00
Library	9:00 – 4:00
MacLaurin	11:00 – 3:00

• ELECTION PLATFORMS • BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The Board of Governors is one of the two major governing bodies of the University, the other being the Senate. The Board maintains and builds the University buildings and properties, appoints the staff of the University including the President, Vice Presidents and Deans, establishes faculties and departments on the recommendation of Senate, determines all fees including tuition fees, administers the University assets, provides for student loans, approves the University budget, and so on. It meets approximately every 7 weeks from September to June. Board members usually serve on two Board committees as well as the Board. The committees meet one week before the Board meeting.

Jonas Gifford

The Board of Governors determines UVic's financial priorities. This has included increasing tuition fees by 69% or more over just two years with little or no improvement in the quality of our education.

I believe that students need a strong voice in decisions that dramatically affect our lives, and I believe that I can be that voice.

I have been active with the undergraduate students' society at UVic for **five years**, including two years as Director of Finance. I also served three years as a student Senate representative. During this time I actively advocated to the university administration and government for a high-quality and accessible education system.

As your representative on the Board of Governors, I will

- advocate to **halt tuition fee increases** and reduce tuition fees over time,
- support **progressive student financial aid** and enhanced **work study programs** to help students who need it,
- pressure government to **restore funding** that has been cut to universities, and
- remain **open and accountable** to students.

I believe that my years of representing students show that I have the skills, experience, and priorities to be a strong voice for students. Vote **Jonas Gifford** for the Board of Governors.

Michelle Kinney

It is more important than ever to elect effective student representatives for the Board of Governors. The provincial government has cut university funding, frozen student aid, and limited student employment. Consequently, the university has delivered two consecutive 30% tuition fee increases with another planned for next year.

It is time for students to demand that government provide adequate funding to keep education accessible.

As your representative I will advocate for:

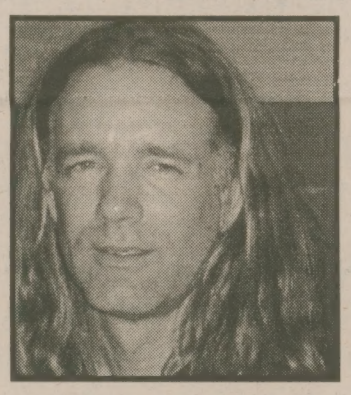
- **Quality and Affordability:** I believe in a post-secondary system accessible to all.
- **Financial Aid:** Your tuition fees fund student assistance. I will work to ensure that the program is fair and funds go to those most in need.
- **Campus environment:** We need a campus that balances educational use with sustainability

I have the experience to be an effective representative:

- UVic Board of Governors 2003-04
- Chairperson, UVic Students' Society 2002-03
- Lobbied BOG, UVic administration and government on the impacts of tuition increases, equity issues, the Campus Plan

I believe in high quality, accessible post-secondary education and a campus that balances environmental, social and fiscal responsibilities. I will ensure that the university's decisions are scrutinized and that students' perspectives are heard.

Re-elect Michelle Kinney



Ingmar Lee

On a second term as student representative on the UVic Board of Governors,

I will continue to work to see that UVic becomes a world leader in advancing real solutions to the Earth's environmental catastrophe.

As an enormous consumer of forest products, UVic must begin to reform its paper consumption habits. By converting the entire university to 100% recycled paper, and by instituting a simple requirement of default double-siding in paper-processing equipment, UVic will significantly reduce its ecological footprint, while reducing the cost of paper. As we work towards this goal together, our model can be exported to other universities in British Columbia, across Canada, and around the world.

I will continue to challenge the use of toxic pesticides on the UVic campus.

Contrary to the claims of UVic Facilities Management's 2003 'Sustainability Report,' toxic pesticides are applied, without notice at UVic by private contract. For the second time, I will challenge their permit to do so, based on new legal precedents, at the Environmental Appeal Board. On an increasingly poisoned planet universities must develop organic solutions to all facility management problems.

I will continue to vehemently oppose tuition fees, or any other exclusionary impediment to the accessibility of UVic.

Agata Lis

As our second tuition payments are pouring out of our bank accounts, rising tuition is one of the leading concerns for UVic students. Students have participated in rallies and protests, yet it seems to have no effect. The truth is that as one of two student representatives on the Board of Governors, simply opposing the Board on issues such as rising tuition and dismissing other alternatives is not proactive. I cannot promise that as your representative I will lower tuition. Instead, what the student body needs is a representative who possesses negotiating skills and is open to working with the Board to come to a solution on the burden our 30% increases have had on our students. We cannot avoid the increases, but what we can do is advocate that they be lowered to a more manageable percentage.

- ✔ As your representative, I will work with the Board, not against it, to negotiate proactive solutions that will actually have an effect on the lives of students at UVic.
- ✔ I will also search for solutions to lower the burden of a 30% tuition increase a year.
- ✔ To uphold the integrity of our University, I will push to increase the services offered to students and to sustain these through University development projects.
- ✔ Furthermore, to make our University attractive to new students, we must have resources in order to provide them with the technology needed for advanced learning, as well as the resources to provide more courses and programs. These can be acquired by making our University attractive for investment.

Past representatives have tried protesting the Provincial Government for a number of reasons, but when one approach does not work, trying it over and over again will not change the results. It's time for students to consider an alternative approach.

vote

ALL CANDIDATES FORUM

Candidates for the board of directors will be outlining their platforms and answering any questions you might have.

Wednesday, February 25 12:00-2:30 @ Cinecenta

Monday, March 1 12:00-2:30 @ Cinecenta

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND WHAT IT DOES - A Brief Introduction

One of the more common misconceptions about the Students' Society is that the UVSS consists of the Board of Directors. The UVSS, in fact, is made up of the 17 000+ undergraduate students attending UVic, including the Board of Directors, who work on their behalf. To say that the Board is the UVSS is to deny the democratic mechanisms which are in place for students to effect change within their Society. Students can have input through participating in Students' Society committee meetings, Semi-Annual and Annual General Meetings and in General Elections.

The Board of Directors (BoD) is a body of students elected by students, to allocate the Students' Society budget, implement campaigns, advocate on behalf of students, maintain the Students' Society's services, and develop the membership. It is not a 'student government'; the BoD has no legislative power over its electorate in a manner similar to that of Parliament.

Each member of the Board has a duty with other Board members to further the interests of the Society, and is responsible and answerable to the membership.

CONSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF DIRECTORS

The four Executive Director positions are :

Chairperson
Director of Academics
Director of Finance
Director of Services

The Chairperson, constitutionally, is the spokesperson of the Society, liaising with the university administration, different levels of government, and the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) national and provincial offices. The Chairperson regularly chairs the BoD meetings, which must occur at least twice per month. They are responsible for preparing policy of the Society, and assisting in all Society publications. As well, the Chairperson sits on the executive committee of the Graduating Class.

The Director of Academics is the chair of the Course Union Council, and the liaison with the Ombudsperson's office, student members on Senate, and the Board of Governors. They are also responsible for the communication and advertising for the Society, and for initiating and coordinating the speakers programs and any other programs of an academic nature.

The Director of Finance is responsible for all financial records, policies, contracts and statements of the Society and the preparation of the Society's annual budget. In addition, the Director of Finance acts as a liaison between the unionized and non-unionized staff and the BoD through the Personnel Committee.

The Director of Services is the chair of the Clubs Council, and the chief liaison between the staff and members of the Society (through the General Manager). They are responsible for initiating and coordinating orientation, exchange and charity programs, and for all other non-academic programs. In addition, the Director of Services acts as a liaison between the unionized and non-unionized staff and the BoD through the Personnel Committee.

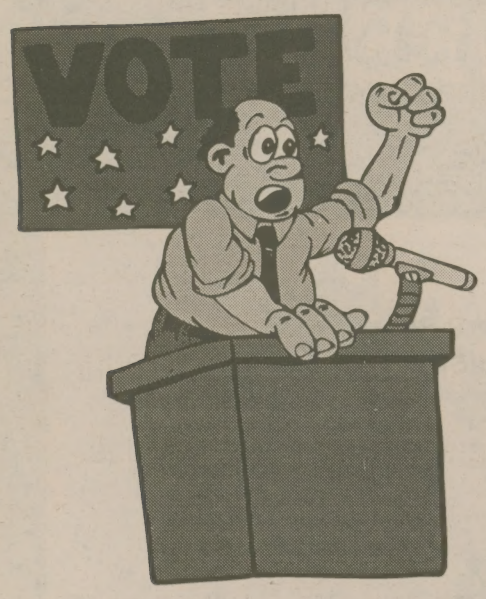
At-Large Directors and Constituency Organisation Representatives are responsible for assisting the Executive Directors in carrying out their duties and also scrutinizing Executive Director activities. They assist in coordinating and implementing all levels of campaigns concerning education defense and must participate on at least two committees of the Students' Society. The Constituency Organisation Representatives are also responsible for liaising with their respective constituency organisations.

All the directors together shape policy, run campaigns, prepare the budget, resolve administrative decisions, and generally deal with the business of the Society. The offices of the Executive Directors are found in the Resource Centre (B103), which also houses research material about student and social issues, gathered over the years by involved students and the Canadian Federation of Students.

Students pay a fee each semester to the UVSS, and to the CFS. Both fees are referendum based - that is, students have chosen, by majority, to levy themselves a fee for the operation of the UVSS and the services it provides. The UVSS holds two General meetings per year (October and February), when each registered student has speaking rights and a vote so that they may have direct input into the direction of the organisation, and the policies and budget priorities for the year.

Most of the business of the BoD is actually conducted through committees. The newly elected BoD begins its term on May 1st. At that time, the committees are struck for the year. Some committees are standing committees of the Students' Society as per the UVSS Constitution and Bylaws and must be activated each year. Other committees are standing committees of the Board and, although often no less important, can be struck or not at the discretion of the existing Board.

Wednesday, February 25
12:00-2:30
@ Cinecenta

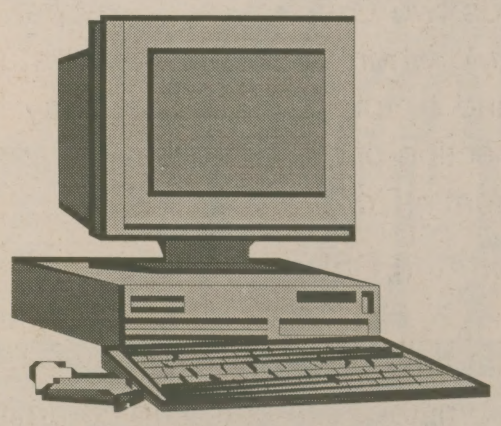


Monday, March 1
12:00-2:30
@ Cinecenta

You've seen their posters
Now see the Candidates!
Hear them Speak!
Ask them YOUR Questions!

Can't make the **All Candidates Forums** in person? Listen Live on **CFUV!**

ATTENTION ALL STUDENTS



ELECTIONS TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

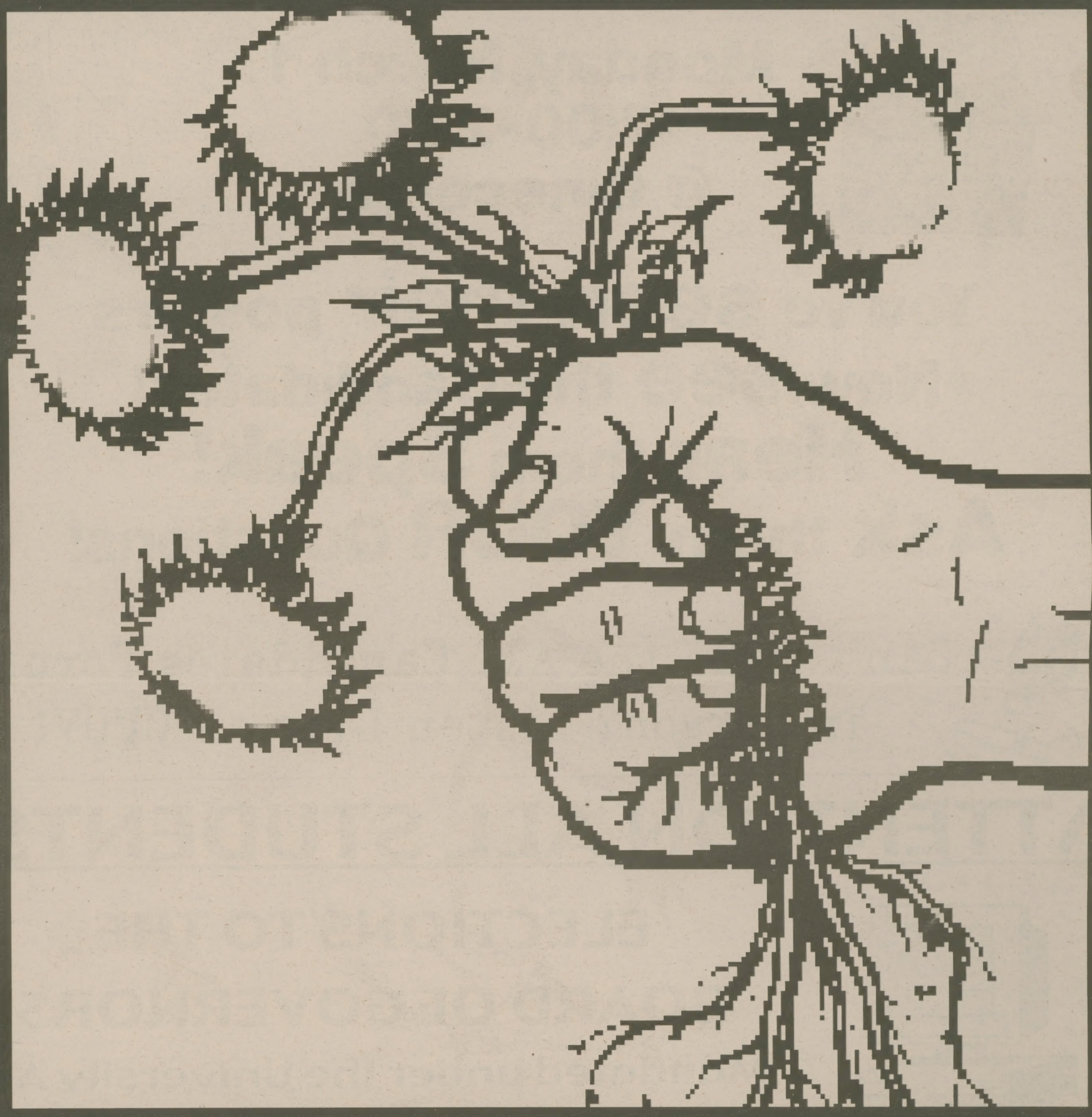
Mandated under the University Act

Vote online at:
http://webvote.uvic.ca.

To cast your vote you will need your student number and PIN number (used for web registration). The web-voting system will be the sole method for voting for this election, paper ballots will not be available.

Elections start at 9:00 a.m. PST on March 3rd and close at 4:00 p.m. PST on March 5th, 2004.

"IF DEMOCRACY IS THE FLOWER...
THEN APATHY IS THE WEED."



VOTE

March 3, 4, & 5